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President's Message

Illinois covers more than 55,000 square miles and stretches some 400 miles lengthwise and 200 miles east to west. That's a lot of territory. So it's not surprising the day-to-day experience of birdlife for an IOS member from one part of the state can be quite different from that of someone in another area.

The Internet, electronic mail, and that older form of technology called the telephone, shorten these distances between us. They also enable a widespread and close to instantaneous sharing of information about what's happening in bird life all over the state. Those who are plugged in to the Illinois birding community's electronic mail list serve, Illinois Birders Exchanging Thoughts or IBET*, know how rapidly word spreads of the occurrence of a rarity, the current northern reach of spring migration, and what birds are concentrating where. The volume and scope of this information exchange is such that one can keep abreast of the current state of ornithological affairs in Illinois without even stepping outside the house, let alone traveling throughout the 55,000 square miles.

Nonetheless, Internet communications, or for that matter even telephone conversation, is not a replacement for face-to-face interactions between real, flesh-and-blood people. Nor is following bird life via the world wide web a replacement for direct sensory experience, outdoors with actual birds and the sights, sounds and smells of their habitats.

One of the benefits of our joining in the IOS community is the number of opportunities that IOS offers through field trips and its annual meeting to gather with others interested in birds and birding in Illinois. This contact between birders allows new friendships to blossom, and also strengthens old friendships. It enables us to exchange and share the varied experiences that come from living in different regions within Illinois, as well as neighboring states. Often, unexpected rewards rise out of the interactions at these gatherings.

IOS offers a range of field trips at a variety of locations distributed all over Illinois. The annual meeting, this year being held in May at Pere Marquette State Park outside St. Louis, is a superb forum for getting together with others who enjoy birding. What makes these IOS events special is that you meet people from all around Illinois, each of whom brings a unique perspective on our bird life. This statewide character is a key ingredient that definitely enhances one's experience of the activities.

Every year I look forward to IOS's annual meeting. If you've been to previous meetings, you know why I feel that way. If not, be sure to find out this year! See a part of Illinois you don't often get to, or share your local patch with visitors from afar. And strengthen your connections within the Illinois birding community. Illinois may be a big state, but IOS brings us close together.

Geoffrey A. Williamson

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Letter from the editor

As Eric Walters and Josh Engels, the authors of Illinois' Next New Bird (page 121 in this issue) were completing the final draft of their article, scads of birders were up at Illinois Beach State Park in northeastern Illinois observing a new state bird — the Red-cockaded Woodpecker. A team of experts offered suggestions to Eric and Josh on the next most logical bird species to be added to Illinois' checklist, and, of course, the Red-cockaded Woodpecker wasn't on anyone's list.

So while we all had fun speculating, the woodpecker's visit once again proved nature has patterns, but just when you think you understand the pattern, the story changes. Paul Sweet and Al Stokie changed the story when they discovered the Red-cockaded Woodpecker during a shorebird survey at Illinois Beach State Park. The woodpecker is federally endangered, lives farther south than Illinois and is non-migratory, except for short-distance movements. So, of course, we never would conceive of a bird from the wild like that making it to Illinois. Yet it did.

Perhaps that is one reason why birding is so fascinating — because you never know what to expect. The people of Illinois who saw thousands of Passenger Pigeons coursing the skies in the early 1900s never expected the bird to go extinct. But it did.

For me, a lesson learned from the story of the Red-cockaded Woodpecker is that we, as birders and conservationists, must remain vigilant. We might miss a rare bird, or we might miss the disappearance of one.

Sheryl De Vore

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About Our Cover:

Why is the cover art, created by Denis Kania, depicting a species never seen before in Illinois? To find out, see our lead article beginning on page 122.

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Illinois' Next New Bird

by Eric Walters and Josh Engel

On a crisp, cloudless fall day, we set out to examine the avian life at a forest preserve near our home. The sunny day foreshadowed our great fortune to come that morning. We walked the path through the woods until an open prairie beckoned, welcoming our exploration. A short wooden fencerow separated the path from the prairie.

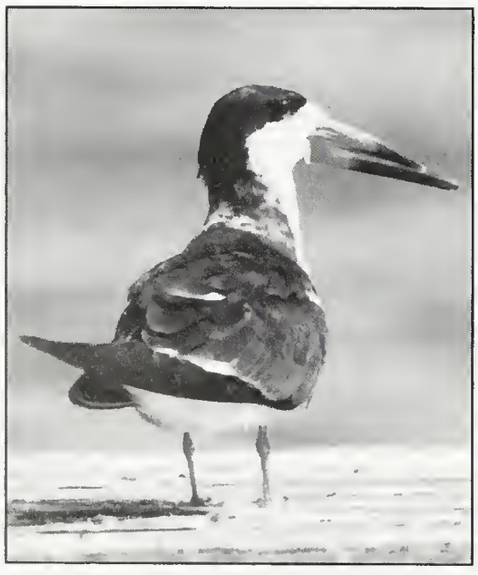
And there it was! Sitting calmly on the fence as if holding court, awaiting our presence. The stately bird was unlike any that had ever ventured into the boundaries of Illinois. The black cap, gray back, white underparts, and unexpectedly long tail all cinched the identification. We had discovered Illinois' first Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus savana*)!

This fictional story could someday become reality especially if a panel of Illinois birders is right in naming it one of the next most likely candidates to be added to the Illinois species list. Any birder would love to find a new species, but to increase your chances of being the lucky finder, a birder has to know which species would most likely be expected next, when it would occur, and where in the state to look.

We asked 17 experienced Illinois birders to list the next five most likely species to be added to the state checklist, in order of their probability, and to give reasons for their choices.

The "next new state bird" topic has been broached in print twice before in Illinois, even as far back as 1881 when Robert Ridgway published a list of birds that probably occur in Illinois (Ridgway 1881). His speculation included 38 birds now considered full species. Of those in his list, 23 have been added to the state checklist in the last 120 years. Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Arctic Tern, Chestnut-collared Longspur, and Scrub Jay are the only four new species added from his list in the last quarter century. In 1975, H. David Bohlen authored an article listing 20 species he expected would occur in Illinois in the near future (Bohlen 1975). Since that article, 12 of them have been added with an additional three more reported. The White-winged Dove was the most recent bird on Bohlen's list to be added to the state checklist.

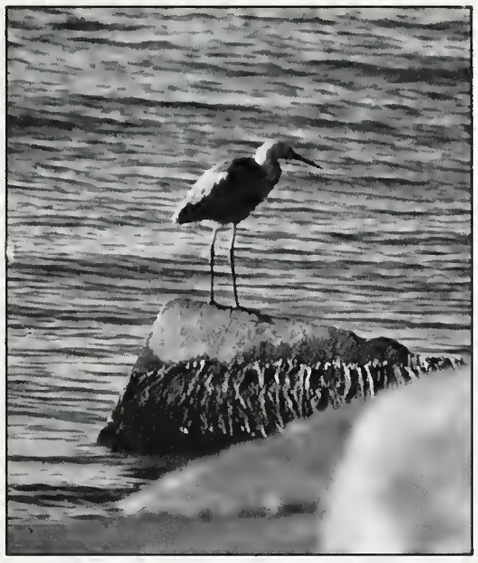
The authors would like to thank the committee who took the time to share their thoughts and opinions that have formed a solid foundation for this article: Steve Bailey, Laurie Binford, Richard Biss, Frank Bennett, Dave Bohlen, Robert Chapel, Sheryl De Vore, Josh Engel, Robert Hughes,



An unlikely addition to the Illinois state list, the Black Skimmer, was discovered in 1998 by Myrna Deaton at Lake Decatur in Macon County. Dennis Oehmke took this photo 4 September 1998. The bird was a one-day wonder. See Meadowlark 8:43-43 for details.

Todd Fink, one of the state's finest birders, now deceased, discovered this Curve-billed Thrasher with Judy DeNeal in December 1993. Todd Fink took this photo 25 December 1993. See Meadowlark 2:87-89 for details.

This Broad-billed Hummingbird became the state's first record when it was discovered in fall 1996 at a feeder in Peoria County and identified by Dave Bohlen, Myrna Deaton, Vernon Kleen, and Dan Kassebaum. Dennis Oehmke took the photo of this bird 14 November 1996. See Meadowlark 6:42-44 for details.



Sue Friscia found the state's first documented Reddish Egret at the Big Marsh (Lake Calumet) in Cook County in 1992. Then, Robert Hughes found another one, this time at Montrose Harbor in Chicago (Cook County) 6 September. 1997. Photo by Robert Hughes. See Meadowlark 3:45 for details.

Illinois first Northern Wheatear in Coles County 12 September 1990. This bird was photographed by Greg Schaefer and published on the cover of Illinois Birds and Birding 6:3. See IB&B 7:12-13 for an account of this species.

Illinois' first Gray-crowned Rosy Finch was found at the home of Sandy and David White in Will County. Dennis Oehmke took this photo 19 November 1990, and it was published on the cover of Illinois Birds and Birding 6:4. See IB&B 7: 78 for an account of this species.

Dave Johnson, Dan Kassebaum, Walter Marcisz, Keith McMullen, Michael Retter, Justin Rink, Eric Walters, and Geoff Williamson.

Our scoring method assigned five points for each first place vote, four points for each second place, and on downward. A preliminary list consisting of 61 species was considered with 29 receiving at least one vote. At least 20 species had two or more votes, but the following only garnered two votes tallying five or less points: Shiny Cowbird, Wilson's Plover, Broad-tailed Hummingbird, Red-necked Stint, Great Gray Owl, White-winged Tern, Great Cormorant, and Black-chinned Hummingbird.

Roseate Spoonbill received three votes from downstate voters who were quick to remind that this species was present in Missouri in late summer of 1999 as well as in the northern part of the state during August of 2000 (Pelikan 2000). It was also photographed in August of 1997 in Iowa (Brock 1998). Postbreeding wanderers could occur in late summer after strong southwesterly winds.

The Inca Dove also attracted attention from three voters largely because it spends most of its time near people (at feeders, parks, and gardens), thus increasing its chances for even a beginner to stumble upon it. There is even one undocumented recent report of this species in southeast Illinois along with a recent record from Columbus, Missouri (R.Chapel, personal communication). The remaining 10 species really separated themselves from the pack in terms of overall points.

Trends in choosing

Our panel commented on two trends that played a role in their choices—birds at feeders and easily identifiable species. Birds most likely to be found at a feeder were represented by three birds in the top five and seven in the top 20. Five hummingbirds were in the top 27.

Birds found at feeders, including hummingbirds, typically remain for a number of days allowing close observation by many observers as well as offering the opportunity for photographic documentation. Both confirmation by many birders and necessary documentation significantly increase the chance of the bird being added to the state list. Feeding birds has long been extremely popular and the more times a bird puts itself in front of a pair of human eyes, the better the odds of it being seen and identified, even if the observer is a beginner birder. Of the birds on our list that could appear at a feeder, the species easiest to identify were rated higher. A more easily identifiable bird would not likely be passed over, even by a beginner, and that likely explains part of why three of the top five birds on our list were easy-to-identify feeder birds.

Family Laridae (gulls and terns) had two representatives in the top 12 with five overall receiving votes. The reasons noted for the large number of Gull/Tern representatives had to do with this family's behavior of ranging far and wide. These genera likely would have had the most representation in our list if it weren't for the fact that so many of them have already been added to the state checklist in the last couple decades includ-

ing species such as Lesser Black-backed, Slaty-backed, Ivory, and Ross's Gull as well as Sandwich, Gull-billed, and Arctic Tern.

Seventh through tenth place

Here's a look at the seventh through tenth place finishers. The Black-tailed Gull received panelist comments such as, "comparatively unique looking gull" and "fairly easy to ID." Panelists also pointed out that since it's a gull, it has a propensity to wander far. Numerous recent records exist for this species from the East coast as well as one from Texas (Lasley et al. 1999). Three voters chose this bird, one as high as a second place vote.

The Hermit Warbler finished in ninth despite only two votes. But both votes were first place votes! Two reports have already been recorded of this species in Illinois with one comment regarding both as being "undoubtedly correct." Records exist well east of Illinois of this west coast warbler, including one that wintered on Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts (Hunt 1998), so it's possible the bird comes through Illinois on occasion. Records suggest a fall sighting would be more likely, although fall warblers are typically harder to see and identify compared with spring due to the full-grown vegetation and the fact that they are in confusing fall plumage. Perhaps this species would have been given more consideration if the perception wasn't that the bird already has occurred (but the records were not accepted) in Illinois.

The eighth place bird, the Kelp Gull, had three votes with two for second place. This and the Black-tailed probably split some votes between them, preventing either from cracking the top six. A Kelp Gull was recorded very recently from Indiana's Lake Michigan (Brock 1997). "Most all other gulls that have occurred in North America have already occurred in Illinois," wrote one of the panelists. Identification issues, especially the Herring Gull hybrid issue (and possible Sea World escapees), could muddle a possible sighting and certainly led some birders to leave it off their list.

Finishing in seventh, the Anna's Hummingbird had four votes including one first place. It should appear at a feeder, although if an immature bird, it would likely be passed over. Those who keep their hummer feeders filled through fall surely would increase their chances of having this vagrant make an appearance. This common, large hummingbird does have a regular pattern of occurrence in the Southeast and an established pattern of vagrancy in the East. With a recent record of an adult male from St. Louis (M. Retter, personal communication) and three Wisconsin records (Tessen 1999), the Anna's should appear sometime soon, especially at a central or southern Illinois feeder. More than one panelist mentioned other hummingbirds, like the Black-chinned and Broad-tailed, would be more likely to visit Illinois. However, these species, including the adults, would be fairly difficult for many feeder watchers to identify. Thus, the Anna's received the nod since the adult is more visually distinctive. This species would likely occur in Illinois between October and December. Early November would probably have the largest proportion of records.

Six finalists

Now on to the six finalists. These species received the lion's share of votes, including the winning bird, which was listed on the majority of submissions. The next Illinois bird could be any bird, however, as time passes, these six are most likely to be among those added to the state list.

The Cave Swallow received the second most overall votes (8), but outside of one first place vote, was listed in fourth or fifth on most lists of those who voted for it. Thus, there's a consensus that the bird will appear in the near future, but most weren't as confident as with other species. It has an exploding population, one that has sent not just single vagrants, but multiple birds to the Midwest in recent years along with the reality that it appears to be a regular vagrant to the East Coast now. The Cave Swallow invasion in early November of 1999 brought Michigan's first state record (Tessen 2000), nearly 50 records to Ontario (a province with only two previous records) and over 35 to Cape May, New Jersey. Numerous other records were reported along the eastern seaboard from South Carolina northward up to Quebec (Patten 2000). Given its similarity to our Cliff Swallow, it's likely this bird may have already occurred in Illinois on a number of occasions only to be overlooked. Five panelists voiced this opinion. [After this article was written, a Cave Swallow was reported by Kevin Richmond at Lake Chautauqua 26 September 2000, and another by Eric Walters at Illinois Beach State Park in early November 2000 (personal observation).]

Resting in fifth place is the Bullock's Oriole. Interestingly, the bird only received five votes. However, all were either in first or second place demonstrating the passionate opinions of those who strongly believe this is the next new bird. There have been many reports of this species, including one documented record from central Illinois in 1994 (Chapel 1994). However, it appears all reports are of females and immatures, a notorious identification problem when compared to the formerly conspecific Baltimore Oriole. In fact, a recent article comments that many identifications in the East of these are disturbingly suspicious and that these female/immature reports may need to be reexamined. Finally, although Bullock's may indeed be a vagrant to the East, it may be much rarer than we

currently perceive (Lee and Birch 1998). This article is a great resource for sorting out the identification pitfalls for this species. Fortunately, the adult male is rather distinctive. Also in its favor is the fact mentioned by a panelist that it breeds as close to Illinois as Western Nebraska.

Numerous records of adult male Bullock's east of Illinois exist, including two records (spring and fall) from Iowa and one spring record from Missouri recently (Lee & Birch 1998). It's possible one could be found during the same migration as that of the Baltimore, in late April through late May and late July through early September. Another possibility would be a late fall or overwintering bird at a feeder, adult males having been confirmed in Massachusetts a number of times (Lee & Birch 1998), and also in Iowa (see Brock 2000 for an excellent photo). The overwintering possibility works in this bird's favor. The species frequents feeders. Besides the identification pitfalls between the female and immature orioles, a possible hybrid would need to be eliminated. An adult male would certainly have the easiest time making it through a records committee evaluation.

The Long-billed Murrelet was granted full species status from the Marbled Murrelet only as recently as 1997, so records are just starting to trickle in giving a suggestive pattern of vagrancy. It was our only bird among the top seven to not receive a first place vote. However, it appears on our list in fourth place overall largely because of four second place votes it received among its seven votes. This deep water bird could be seen on Lake Michigan or some other large lake such as Rend, Carlyle, Clinton, or Springfield. This member of the alcid family will probably jump on the heels of an Arctic cold front most likely arriving in our state in mid-November through mid-December (although there are two other records from as early as mid-September). There are already three Indiana records and along with recent records from Ohio (Mlodinow 1997), Kansas (Grzybowski 1998), and Wisconsin (Tessen 1999), it's as if the Midwest serves as target practice for overmigrants of this species. There are also scattered records in the East (Mlodinow 1997) showing that more birds of this species have moved from Siberia eastward past Illinois and the Midwest. Preventing a quick addition to the Illinois list would be the fact that the identification can be difficult, especially with Marbled Murrelet. Birders wishing identification treatment of this species are directed to the article cited above.

Final three

The final three species all had first place votes with the Brambling garnering four, a tie for the most. However, outside of those four voters, it didn t elict much passion, so it dropped from an early first place down to a final third place in our poll. So why would this European bird have such a good chance at being added to the Illinois list? First, it s a very easy identification for a beginner and would most likely be found at a backyard feeder at a time when birders are investing many hours watching birds in their backyards, i.e., winter. Second, this regularly occurring North American winter finch has already been added to the avifauna list in the nearby states of Michigan with 4 records (Tessen 1999), as well as in Minnesota (3 records), Wisconsin, Indiana, and Ohio (Mlodinow 1996). Third, five panelists said this species is way overdue for making it on the Illinois checklist. Hopefully, if this bird appears at a feeder, the homeowner will alert the birding community so that many may get a chance at seeing it. A Brambling might arrive as early as late October, with a number of records after a mid-November cold front, but it's most often discovered starting in late December (perhaps first noticed during CBC feeder counts?). The bird sometimes stays the whole winter leaving in late February, although the Ohio record listed above stayed through 7 April, giving a late date boundary.

Perhaps it's not surprising that another hummingbird took the No. 2 spot on the overall list. The Green Violet-Ear received only one first place vote, but the consistency of opinion on the bird (seven voters had it among their top three) demonstrates that many birders believe it's soon to arrive at a hummingbird feeder near you. It has been seen at feeders in Wisconsin (Tessen 1999) and Kentucky (Brock 2000), spent a late summer at a south Michigan feeder (Tessen 1997), and occurred north to Ontario (Mlodinow 1996). There's even a report in 2000 from the Indiana bird chat line. It does have an established pattern of vagrancy in eastern North America. Expected times? Most Texas records are from mid-May to late July with a peak in early June (Mlodinow 1996). A bird could certainly appear in our area about that time; however, another possibility for the upper Midwest is from August through November. A number of recent records are of birds that arrived in late summer/early fall and then stayed at the same food source for a number of months. Interestingly, while the identification is quite easy for this brightly colored hummingbird, it could pose a problem for some since it's not included in older field guides. Many new state records are species in hard-to-identify plumages. Not so with the Green Violet-Ear, a species that would stand out even to a novice birder, which significantly increases the chances of it being added to our state list in the very near future.

Gold medalist

Our gold medalist bird really separated itself from all other species, getting more votes than any other, was the only bird that a majority of panelists voted for along with receiving four first place votes! The next

Illinois bird? The Fork-tailed Flycatcher!

This beautiful bird from South and Central America is so obvious that even a non-birder would notice its presence, only increasing the chances of it being found. There are now over 100 records of this bird east of the Mississippi River with most falling into a well-established pattern of vagrancy in eastern North America, showing up annually on the Gulf Coast and Atlantic Seaboard (Lockwood 1999). What makes a future Illinois record even more believable are all the records from nearby states and provinces including Kentucky, Wisconsin (3 records), Michigan (2), and Minnesota (2), Nebraska, and Arkansas. There are even records from western and eastern Ontario (Lockwood 1999).

There are four subspecies, but we'd most likely get the subspecies found in southeast South America, which is the farthest away from Illinois. Based on the current vagrancy pattern, Illinois birders have the best chance to find this bird here from May through June. However, it's three times more likely to appear in the fall, with eastern U.S. records mainly falling between late August through early November. Indeed, a Fork-tailed Flycatcher was observed in Wisconsin in fall 2000, after this article was written. Look for a Fork-tailed Flycatcher perched on fence posts or low shrubs in open habitats such as pastures or prairie borders. The Lake Michigan lakefront would also be a likely location for its first appearance. See the article cited above for identification details on the various subspecies along with other detailed information on this species.

As for this prized flycatcher, even Ridgway had it on his 1881 wish list; it's now been 120 years and counting that birders have been expecting a visit from this species. Will you be the one to introduce it to the Illinois state list?

Here's a recap of our winners. The number in parenthesis represents the number of persons who put the species in first place.

1. Fork-tailed Flycatcher (4)
2. Green Violet-Ear (1)
3. Brambling (4)
4. Long-billed Murrelet
5. Bullock's Oriole (3)
6. Cave Swallow (1)
7. Anna's Hummingbird (1)
8. Kelp Gull
9. Hermit Warbler (2)
10. Black-tailed Gull
11. Inca Dove
12. Roseate Spoonbill

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Hoary Redpoll *(Carduelis hornemanni)* Visits Evanston/Skokie

by Eric Walters

On 7 February 2000, Ed and Geri Mooney noticed a flock of Common Redpolls *(Carduelis flammea)* at their yard feeders in Skokie (Cook County). Among these birds was an individual so pale they considered the possibility it was a Hoary Redpoll (*C. hornemanni*.) Several days later, Ed sent an email to the state bird chat line reporting he had Common Redpolls at his feeder, which prompted Josh Engel and me to attempt to view these unusual winter visitors from the north.

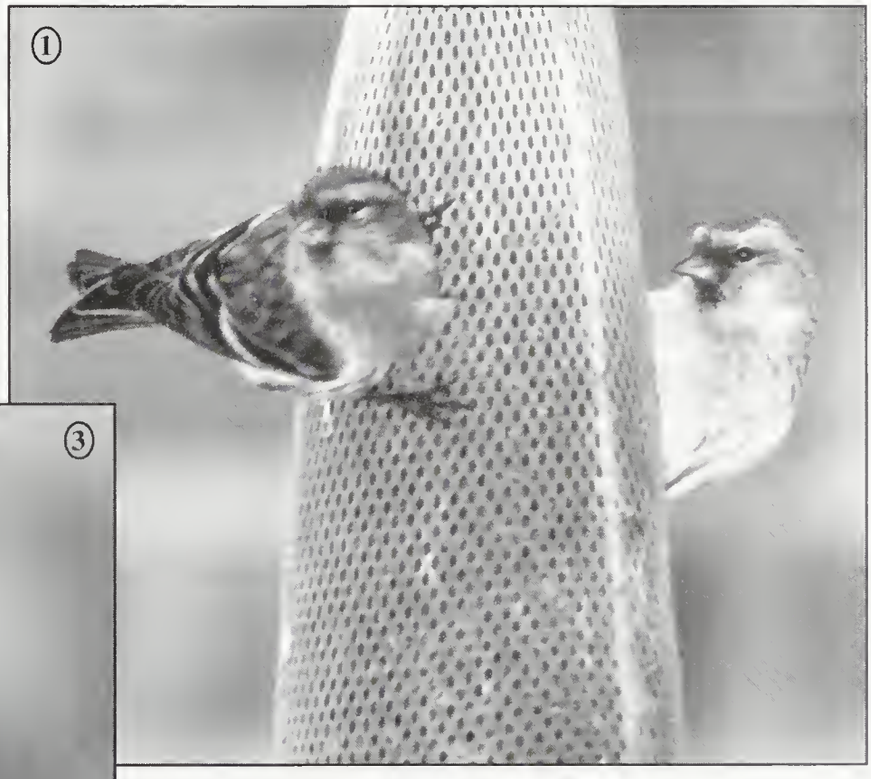

Photo 1: *Common Redpoll at left on feeder, with Hoary Redpoll, Cook County 20 Feb. 2000. Note, if you can, the paler face and auriculars on the bird in question compared with the Common. Also note the minimal amount of pink shading (seen as gray in this black and white photo) on the breast of the Hoary compared with the Common. Photo by Eric Walters.*

Photo 2: *The diminished amount of streaking on the flank in this photo points to Hoary Redpoll. Photo by Eric Walters.*

Photo 3: *Male Hoary Redpolls contain no streaking on the undertail coverts, or else very few, compared with fairly noticeable streaking on the Common. The undertail covert of the bird in this photo showed one thin mark at the base. Photo by Eric Walters.*

Photo 4: *Notice the small, pushed-in look on the Hoary Redpoll's bill. Photo by Eric Walters.*

Photo 5: *Note the shape of the head. See Sibley (page 533) for a comparison of Hoary and Common Redpoll head shapes. This head shape in this photo points to Hoary. Photo by Eric Walters.*

Josh visited first on 17 February and noticed a very pale redpoll with markings of a Hoary! He immediately alerted others, but unfortunately the bird was not relocated that day nor the next two days. A snowstorm blanketed the region during those days, and when three of the six Common Redpolls appeared to have left, Josh thought this Arctic ghost had also left.

On 20 February, I stopped quickly at the site before going to church, and noticed a very pale redpoll at a niger seed feeder on the side of the house. I took some quick photos, then reported the bird to the state bird chat line, and then returned to find the bird still present with other Commons. Soon other birders appeared to celebrate one of few confirmed sightings of this species in the state.

While the identification of Hoary Redpoll can be troublesome, observers of the Skokie bird had excellent conditions for viewing the bird – extensive closeup views in a variety of lighting conditions on different days with Common Redpolls nearby for critical comparison. The Hoary was extremely cooperative, giving most patient birders a plethora of opportunities to see the important marks. Once, the bird even flew to the birders on the nearby sidewalk and perched directly overhead giving awesome views of its undertail coverts, an important identification mark (see Sibley 2000, p. 533).

This Hoary had only one thin line on its undertail covert and a completely white rump, helping to clinch its identification as a male. A female Hoary would have more undertail covert marks, but Common Redpolls have even more streaking on their undertail coverts. Numerous white and brown feathers on the bird's back, nape, and head created the overall paler plumage affect compared with the Common Redpolls. Other marks noticed versus the Common Redpolls were thicker white coverts, more whitish secondaries, slightly larger overall size, a slightly smaller bill, buff-pale orange auriculars, and thin, lighter flank markings. The bird also had less extensive and lighter pink color on its breast compared with the nearby Commons. A few people also heard the bird call and described it as being slightly different than the Common Redpoll calls.

Redpoll plumages get darker as the winter progresses due to feather wear. With the Skokie Hoary Redpoll being so pale, one can only wonder how much whiter it was a few months before. The bird was relocated everyday between 20 and 25 February. Early to mid-morning proved the most reliable time to find the bird, and it rarely appeared after 1p.m. A Cooper's Hawk often hunted the yard in the afternoon.

The first record of Hoary Redpoll came from Ridgway (1889) and included a specimen taken by Nelson in Cook County in March 1845. Thirteen other reports are all from northern Illinois, except one at a feeder at Jacksonville in February 1978 (Bohlen 1989). Joe Milosevich took photographs of a Hoary Redpoll in Joliet in 1982. Hoary Redpolls mingle with flocks of Common Redpolls, and behave similarly.

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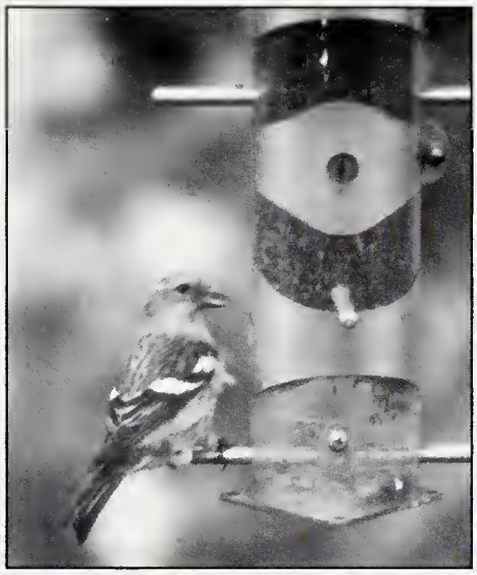

The Illinois 2000 Statewide Spring Bird Count

by Vernon M. Kleen

The 2000 (29th annual) Statewide Spring Bird Count was conducted on Saturday, 6 May; and unlike the past three years, it was a week earlier than (and therefore did not coincide with) International Migratory Bird Day. This year's 1,448 participants set 72 new species records and tied 31 others (see Tables 5 and 6).

The "wee" hours of count morning (before sunrise) were great; there was little breeze and, for those interested, the moon was about half way into its 1st quarter. By 9 a.m. things began to change, at least in southern Illinois. In Union County a steady rain (about 10 a.m.) interfered with prime-time birding for nearly an hour, and early afternoon showers were mentioned in Massac County. However, in Pulaski County (between Union and Massac) and, throughout most of Illinois, there was little or no rain encountered; the only exceptions were Calhoun County and a few other western counties where slight showers occurred after 6 p.m. Threatening clouds were reported from Boone County, but adjacent De Kalb County reported "clear" skies all day. Overall, count day skies ranged from mostly clear in the northeastern counties to clear to partly cloudy most everywhere else. Count day temperatures ranged rather evenly from morning lows in the low 60s to afternoon highs in the low 80s up and down the state. The winds, primarily from the south and southwest ranged from 1 to 5 mph in the south to more than 20 mph in scattered counties; the statewide average, though, was about 8 to 15 mph.

Since this year's count date was on the early side of the "count day window" (the window is the Saturday that falls on or between May 4th & 10th), southern Illinois birders thought this would be their chance to find more species in their counties than their northern counterparts. However, as has become tradition, the northern counties seem to end up with higher species totals no matter what the date. In 1999, 17 counties reported 150 or more species (12 were at 160 or more); this year only 12 counties reached the 150 species plateau: 6 in the northern quarter of the state, 3 in the southern quarter of the state and 3 in the middle half of the state (see Table 7). Several other counties were close, and with more observers and additional walking time, other counties would have achieved 150 species or more. It's usually a toss-up whether Cook or Lake County will report the most species; this year it was Cook County with 190 species and Lake with 188. Winnebago County was a distant third with 169 species. The other high species totals were 168 (Knox), 166 (Clinton, Massac and Union), 165 (Du Page) and 161 (Will).

A visual record of each county's results appears in Figure 1. The two numbers in the figure identify the number of species and the number of participants in each county. One of the most useful features of this figure is that information for any county can be quickly compared with the results

A White-winged Crossbill was reported in Jacksonville, Morgan County, on the 2000 Illinois Spring Bird Count. Photo taken by Steve Tavender 6 May 2000.

The Rose-breasted Grosbeak is one of 53 species reported from 90 or more Illinois counties during the 2000 spring bird count. Only 6 counties in Illinois did not report this species during the count. Photo taken on 4 May 2000 in Springfield by Dennis Oelmke

TABLE 1 — Annual Comparisons

Criteria	2000	1999	1998	Highest Total
Number of Species	266	262	259	269 (1996)
Number of Birds	533,335	588,646	517,330	593,680 (1996)
Number of Participating Counties	101	100	100	102 (2 yrs)
Number of Observers	1,448	1,479	1,495	1,611 (1997)
Number of Party Miles Walked	2,425	2,287	2,257	2,628 (1995)
Number of Party Miles Driven	23,295	23,305	23,774	23,774 (1998)
Total Number of Party Miles	25,720	25,592	26,035	26,035 (1998)
Number of Party Hours Walked	3,070	3,218	2,969	3,457 (1997)
Number of Party Hours Driven	1,996	1,932	2,140	2,140 (1998)
Total Number of Party Hours	5,066	5,150	5,109	5,565 (1997)
Species in 90% or more Counties	53	54	49	55 (1996)
Counties with 100 or more Species	77	74	69	80 (1997)
Counties with 20 or more Observers	20	19	18	24 (1998)
Highest Species total in single county	190	202	180	205 (1999)
Average # species/participating county	117	122	112	122 (1999)
Average # species for all 102 counties	116	120	110	120 (1999)

of all other counties of particular interest. Figure 1 also shows where counties (such as Clay, Ford, Marshall, Macoupin, Montgomery, Putnam, Stark and Wayne) that might benefit from more help are located. Table 3 provides the usual comparison of birding effort in each south-to-north quarter of the state.

Data Comparisons

After completing the Count, the first two questions normally asked are: how did we do this year in comparison to last year and what new records did we set? Of course, every year new records are expected and 2000 was no exception; however, 2000 was not a major record-setting year and none of the basic records were broken. Table 1 compares, for easy reference, the basic 2000 data with the same data for 1999, 1998 and the record-setting year. Species-wise, the 2000 total of 266 species was above average and only 3 short of the record (269 in 1996). The 533,000+ birds reported was only 10% below the 1996 record.

As a statewide bird-counting body, our goal of perfection has always been to have at least 1 party of observers in all 102 counties every year (this has been accomplished twice, thus far, in our 29-year history). We would have achieved the goal again this year if it hadn't been for a last-minute family illness. Cook and Du Page Counties continued to be the only ones with 100 or more participants; however, another 18 counties were blessed with 20 or more (see Table 2). Finally, the 2000 calculations (the 3rd year for these calculations) for the average number of species for participating counties, and, for all 102 counties combined were: 117 and 116, respectively (about _ between the 1998 & 1999 averages).

TABLE 2

Counties with 20 or more Participants

Cook	115	Winnebago	29
Du Page	106	Edgar	28
McDonough	64	Boone	26
McHenry	55	Pike	24
Lake	49	Jo Daviess	23
Schuyler	59	Knox	23
Will	44	Kendall	22
Kane	43	Iroquois	21
Champaign	38	Stephenson	21
Livingston	30		

Common and Uncommon Species

Table 4 identifies the 53 species were reported from 90 or more counties; for the most part, these are the

TABLE 3

Area Coverage

AREA	Possible # of Counties	# Counties Participating	# Party Hours	Average # Party Hours Per County
1	23	23 (100%)	721	31.35
2	28	28 (100%)	1018	36.36
3	27	27 (100%)	1217	45.07
4	24	23 (96%)	2110	91.74
TOTAL	102	100 (99%)	5066	50.16

TABLE 4

Species Reported from 90 or more Counties

Great Blue Heron	99	Red-eyed Vireo	90	Common Yellowthroat	98
Turkey Vulture	101	Blue Jay	101	Eastern Towhee	97
Canada Goose	99	American Crow	101	Chipping Sparrow	100
Wood Duck	94	Horned Lark	97	Field Sparrow	98
Mallard	95	Purple Martin	90	Song Sparrow	99
Red-tailed Hawk	100	Tree Swallow	91	Wht-crowned Sparrow	91
Killdeer	101	N. Rough-wg Swallow	91	Northern Cardinal	101
Rock Dove	98	Barn Swallow	101	Rose-breast Grosbeak	95
Mourning Dove	101	Tufted Titmouse	98	Indigo Bunting	101
Chimney Swift	97	Wht-breasted Nuthatch	96	Red-winged Blackbird	101
Red-head Woodpecker	99	House Wren	95	Eastern Meadowlark	101
Red-bell. Woodpecker	98	Eastern Bluebird	100	Common Grackle	101
Downy Woodpecker	99	Wood Thrush	92	Brown-head Cowbird	101
Northern Flicker	96	American Robin	101	Baltimore Oriole	101
Eastern Wood-Peewee	94	Gray Catbird	100	House Finch	97
Eastern Phoebe	98	Brown Thrasher	100	American Goldfinch	101
Grt. Crested Flycatcher	93	European Starling	101	House Sparrow	101
Eastern Kingbird	98	Yellow-rump Warbler	91		

species seen by nearly everyone. At least 18 species (34%) were found in all 101 reporting counties; another 5 were found in all but one reporting county. It's possible all 53 species were present somewhere in all counties on count day.

Table 5 lists the 20 most common species of 2000 and are depicted in descending order of abundance. As usual, the top 5 have been the same top 5 in the same descending order for several years. This is the first time for the Baltimore Oriole on the List since 1986. Semi-regular species just missing the List this year were Chimney Swift, Rock Dove, Great Blue Heron, Yellow-rumped Warbler and Song Sparrow.

Unlike the species above, a fair number of species are reported each year from just one or two counties. The 27 species reported from a single county appear in **bold face** in Table 6; some of the more interesting one-

TABLE 5

20 Most Commom Species

	2000	1999	1998	Highest	# Years In Top 20
Red-winged Blackbird	60,737	66,495	61,916	69,971 (1996)	29
Common Grackle	33,213	33,504	34,629	59,264 (1974)	29
European Starling	32,695	30,733	31,790	37,736 (1992)	29
American Robin	30,792	29,778	30,878	35,720 (1995)	29
House Sparrow	21,384	19,087	23,012	31,321 (1983)	29
Canada Goose	**19,031**	18,019	18,025	**19,031 (2000)**	15
Ring-billed Gull	17,369	16,855	16,405	29,243 (1994)	16
American Goldfinch	13,150	16,236	13,599	16,236 (1999)	28
American Crow	11,015	11,273	10,133	13,226 (1991)	29
Northern Cardinal	10,842	10,530	10,851	12,088 (1995)	29
Mourning Dove	10,558	10,558	11,877	12,369 (1995)	29
Brown-headed Cowbird	9,974	9,858	9,055	12,542 (1995)	28
Blue Jay	9,507	9,919	10,539	13,446 (1984)	29
Indigo Bunting	**7,973**	**7,714**	5,064	**7,973 (2000)**	10
Barn Swallow	7,786	27,532	9,745	27,532 (1999)	28
Mallard	6,939	* 7,052	6,208	8,731 (1994)	17
Eastern Meadowlark	6,515	5,447	6,693	8,036 (1995)	21
Tree Swallow	6,277	23,942	5,852	24,573 (1989)	14
Double-crested Cormorant	5,839	* 4,239	* 5,351	8,225 (1996)	2
Baltimore Oriole	5,384	* 5,035	* 3,973	5,732 (1986)	3

New records in **bold face**

* Not in "Top 20" this year

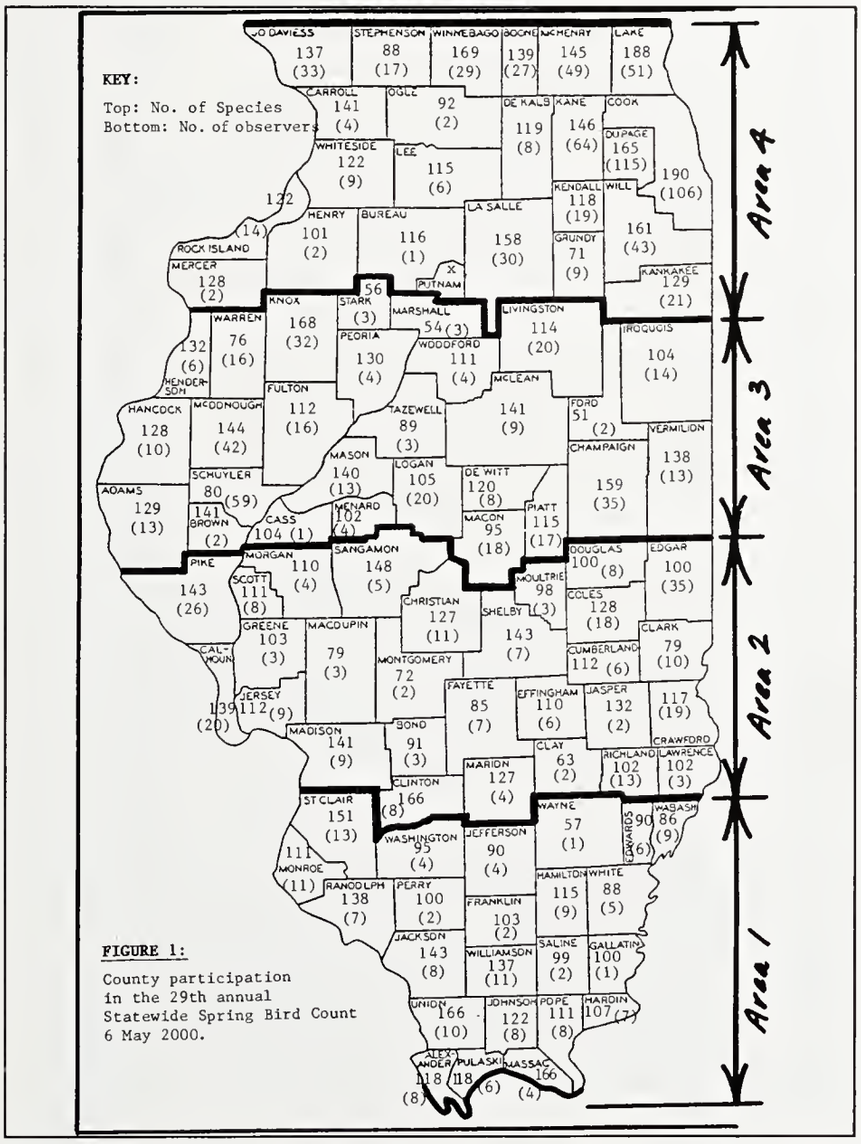

FIGURE 1:
County participation in the 29th annual Statewide Spring Bird Count 6 May 2000.

…where were the ducks, the moorhens, most shorebirds (including golden-plovers), the less common gulls (especially Bonaparte's), the terns, Red-headed Woodpeckers, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and most migrant warblers?

FIGURE 1

TABLE 6 -- Species Account for the 2000 Spring Bird Count

Key to Table:
* = New Spring Bird Count High Total
# = Ties Spring Bird Count High Total
Species Reported from a Single County are in Bold Face.

Species	Total No. of Co.s	Total No. of Birds	High County	(Total)
Common Loon	7	9	Two counties	(2)
Pied-billed Grebe	56	225	Lake	(28)
Horned Grebe	2	2	Two counties	(1)
American White Pelican	9	204	Calhoun	(153)
Double-crested Cormorant	56	5839	Will	(2171)
American Bittern	15	19	Knox	(3)
Least Bittern	6	10	Massac	*(5)
Great Blue Heron	99	4961*	Lake	(344)
Great Egret	64*	1988*	Will	*(434)
Snowy Egret	15*	53	St. Clair	(14)
Little Blue Heron	31*	205	St. Clair	(58)
Cattle Egret	15	232	St. Clair	(161)
Green Heron	83	700*	Cook	(94)
Blk-crowned Night-Heron	18	814	Cook	(625)
Yel-crowned Night-Heron	12	32	Madison	(10)
White-faced Ibis	1#	1	Du Page	#(1)
Black Vulture	8#	55*	Hardin	(22)
Turkey Vulture	101*	3603*	Edgar	(154)
Snow Goose	11*	16	Stephenson	(3)
Ross's Goose	1#	1	Kane	(1)
Canada Goose	99*	19031*	Knox	(1976)
Mute Swan	18	127	Lake	(53)
Wood Duck	94	2787	Du Page	(144)
Gadwall	22	124	Monroe	(26)
American Wigeon	7	20	Carroll	(8)
American Black Duck	6	57#	Lake	*(47)
Mallard	95#	6939	Du Page	(958)
Blue-winged Teal	80	1593	Knox	(94)
Northern Shoveler	41	410	Henderson	(45)
Northern Pintail	6	8	Two counties	(2)
Green-winged Teal	13	44	Carroll	(18)
Canvasback	1	3	Jo Daviess	(3)
Redhead	3	3	Three counties	(1)
Ring-necked Duck	8	14	Champaign	(6)
Lesser Scaup	21	66	Lake	(12)
Bufflehead	2	3	Knox	(2)
Common Goldeneye	1	2	Jo Daviess	(2)
Hooded Merganser	18	92	Cook	*(29)
Common Merganser	3	6	Mason	(3)
Red-breasted Merganser	13	248	Cook	(139)
Ruddy Duck	15	63	Lake	(24)
Osprey	15	19	Cook	(4)
Mississippi Kite	7*	19	Union	(6)
Bald Eagle	14	52	Union	(11)
Northern Harrier	26	58	Cook	(6)
Sharp-shinned Hawk	29	71	Du Page	(9)
Cooper's Hawk	38	148	Cook	(22)
Red-shouldered Hawk	30	77	Jackson	(11)
Broad-winged Hawk	28	62	Will	(8)
Swainson's Hawk	1	2	McHenry	(2)
Red-tailed Hawk	100#	1515	Du Page	(98)
American Kestrel	88	502	Cook	(29)
Merlin	1	1	Lake	(1)
Peregrine Falcon	4	8	Cook	(4)
Gray Partridge	1	2	De Kalb	(2)
Ring-necke Pheasant	60	676	Winnebago	(66)
Greater Prairie-Chicken	2#	51	Jasper	(38)
Wild Turkey	77*	948*	Schuyler	*(191)
Northern Bobwhite	79	1093	Richland	(78)
King Rail	2	3	Hancock	(2)
Virginia Rail	15	37	Lake	(14)
Sora	44	276	Cook	(38)
Purple Gallinule	1#	1#	Massac	(1)
Common Moorhen	8	23	Cook	(8)
American Coot	80	4185	Mason	(870)

TABLE 6 -- Species Account for the 2000 Spring Bird Count (cont.)

Species	Total No. of Co.s	Total No. of Birds	High County	(Total)
Sandhill Crane	11	120	Lake	(38)
Black-bellied Plover	3	5	Two counties	(2)
American Golden Plover	20	4158	McLean	(941)
Semipalmated Plover	50*	1003*	Brown	*(167)
Piping Plover	1	1	Lake	(1)
Killdeer	101#	4567*	Jasper	(172)
Black-necked Stilt	1#	1	St. Clair	(1)
Greater Yellowlegs	37	245	Kendall	(50)
Lesser Yellowlegs	58	1154	Kendall	(200)
Solitary Sandpiper	68	975	Lake	(169)
Willet	3	17	De Kalb	(8)
Spotted Sandpiper	79	1138	Jo Daviess	(151)
Upland Sandpiper	7	10	Three counties	(2)
Hudsonian Godwit	1	2	La Salle	(2)
Marbled Godwit	1	1	Sangamon	(1)
Ruddy Turnstone	2	3	Massac	(2)
Sanderling	2	3	McDonough	(2)
Semipalmated Sandpiper	43	690*	Christian	(104)
Least Sandpiper	68*	3337*	Lake	(283)
White-rumped Sandpiper	8	16	Brown	(6)
Baird's Sandpiper	1	1	Mercer	(1)
Pectoral Sandpiper	57	1899	Douglas	(300)
Dunlin	14	61	Lake	(17)
Stilt Sandpiper	3	5	Brown	(3)
Short-billed Dowitcher	23	118	Jasper	(23)
Common Snipe	26	117	Cook	(28)
American Woodcock	29	86	Lake	(25)
Wilson's Phalarope	2	3	Henry	(2)
Laughing Gull	2	3#	Franklilng	(2)
Bonaparte's Gull	2	5	Cook	(3)
Ring-billed Gull	51	17369	Cook	(12436)
Herring Gull	11	275	Lake	(122)
Lesser Black-backed Gull	1	3	Lake	(3)
Great Black-backed Gull	1	3	Lake	(3)
Caspian Tern	16	519	Cook	(260)
Common Tern	10	630	Lake	(340)
Forster's Tern	10	800	Lake	(608)
Black Tern	4	37	Lake	(33)
Rock Dove	98	5141	Cook	(851)
Eurasian Collared-Dove	6*	13	Marion	(4)
Mourning Dove	101	10558	Cook	(558)
Monk Parakeet	2#	45*	Cook	(39)
Black-billed Cuckoo	23	47	Jackson	(6)
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	76*	550*	Union	(67)
Barn Owl	1	4	Union	(4)
Eastern Screech-Owl	43	118	Du Page	(11)
Great Horned Owl	76	252	Du Page	(15)
Barred Owl	78	436	Knox	(34)
Short-eared Owl	1	1	Jasper	(1)
Common Nighthawk	67	303	Edgar	(19)
Chuck-will's-widow	11	31	Union	(9)
Whip-poor-will	59	434	Union	(43)
Chimney Swift	97	5284	McDonough	(468)
Ruby-thr-d Hummingbird	86	995	Calhoun	*(115)
Belted Kingfisher	84	398	Cook	(26)
Red-headed Woodpecker	99	1861	McDonough	(103)
Red-bellied Woodpecker	98	2649*	Du Page	(145)
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	18	45	Cook	(11)
Downy Woodpecker	99	2115	Du Page	(140)
Hairy Woodpecker	77	448	Du Page	(32)
Northern Flicker	96	1844	Cook	(143)
Pileated Woodpecker	58#	288	Union	(38)
Olive-sided Flycatcher	8	9	Calhoun	(2)
Eastern Wood-Pewee	94*	1115	Union	(123)
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	2	4	Two counties	(2)
Acadian Flycatcher	45	399	Union	(114)
Alder Flycatcher	1	1	Vermilion	(1)
Willow Flycatcher	18	34	Jackson	(5)
Least Flycatcher	58	294	Cook	(51)
Eastern Phoebe	98*	1285*	Jo Daviess	(66)

TABLE 6 – Species Account for the 2000 Spring Bird Count (cont.)

Species	Total No. of Co.s	Total No. of Birds	High County	(Total)
Great Crested Flycatcher	93*	1571	Union	(87)
Western Kingbird	2*	5*	Madison	*(3)
Eastern Kingbird	98	2607	Cook	(120)
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	1#	1#	Jersey	#(1)
Loggerhead Shrike	30	78	Massac	(13)
White-eyed Vireo	68*	717*	Union	(117)
Bell's Vireo	17	33	Perry	(5)
Yellow-throated Vireo	74*	438	Union	(32)
Blue-headed Vireo	19	70	Lake	(27)
Warbling Vireo	87	1954	Calhoun	(95)
Philadelphia Vireo	26	76	Du Page	(13)
Red-eyed Vireo	90*	1471	Union	(131)
Blue Jay	101	9507	Cook	(935)
American Crow	101	11015	Cook	(989)
Fish Crow	12*	118	Alexander	(34)
Horned Lark	97*	2504	Vermilion	(194)
Purple Martin	90	3271	Calhoun	(248)
Tree Swallow	91	6277	Mason	(610)
No. Rough-wing Swallow	91#	3337	Carroll	(266)
Bank Swallow	60	3421	Carroll	(2103)
Cliff Swallow	54	3313	Randolph	(573)
Barn Swallow	101	7786	Cook	(628)
Carolina Chickadee	40*	1012	Massac	(172)
Black-capped Chickadee	63	3558	Du Page	(369)
Tufted Titmouse	98	2655	Union	(130)
Red-breasted Nuthatch	30	71	McHenry	(8)
White-breasted Nuthatch	96	1512	Winnebago	(70)
Brown Creeper	23	38	Cook	(5)
Carolina Wren	77	959	Union	(122)
Bewick's Wren	1	1	McDonough	(1)
House Wren	95	4909	Winnebago	(359)
Winter Wren	3	3	Three counties	(1)
Sedge Wren	22*	94	La Salle	(13)
Marsh Wren	24	129	Cook	(21)
Golden-crowned Kinglet	1	1	Du Page	(1)
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	33	213	Cook	(63)
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	86*	2815*	Jackson	(212)
Eastern Bluebird	100*	3004	Jackson	(164)
Veery	60	395	Cook	(150)
Gray-cheeked Thrush	65	307	Cook	(42)
Swainson's Thrush	82	1314	Cook	(237)
Hermit Thrush	25	78	Cook	(20)
Wood Thrush	92	1240	Union	(72)
American Robin	101	30792	Cook	(1930)
Gray Catbird	100	4113	Cook	(620)
Northern Mockingbird	81*	651	Massac	(46)
Brown Thrasher	100	2368	McDonough	(120)
European Starling	101	32695	Cook	(2501)
American Pipit	14	74	Lake	(32)
Cedar Waxwing	70*	2075	Mason	(166)
Blue-winged Warbler	35	190	Cook	(36)
Golden-winged Warbler	31	95	Lake	(17)
["Lawrence's Warbler"	1#	1#	Lake	#(1)]
Tennessee Warbler	77	3371	Union	(365)
Orange-crowned Warbler	16	50	Cook	(23)
Nashville Warbler	60	667	Cook	(120)
Northern Parula	68	793*	Jackson	(86)
Yellow Warbler	80	2342	Lake	(271)
Chestnut-sided Warbler	63	443	Cook	(106)
Magnolia Warbler	61	559	Cook	(262)
Cape May Warbler	52*	377	Cook	(66)
Blk-thr-d Blue Warbler	5	21	Cook	(14)
Yellow-rumped Warbler	91	4912	Cook	(1239)
Blk-thr'd Green Warbler	57	536	Cook	(95)
Blackburnian Warbler	36	142	Cook	(23)
Yellow-throated Warbler	44	175	Union	(31)
Pine Warbler	24	68	Hamilton	(12)
Prairie Warbler	17	155	Williamson	(30)

TABLE 6 – Species Account for the 2000 Spring Bird Count (cont.)

Species	Total No. of Co.s	Total No. of Birds	High County	(Total)
Palm Warbler	78	3525	Cook	(971)
Bay-breasted Warbler	33	184	Cook	(45)
Blackpoll Warbler	75	852	Union	#(172)
Cerulean Warbler	38	123	Winnebago	(15)
Black-and-white Warbler	61	498	Cook	(111)
American Redstart	80	1682	Cook	(442)
Prothonotary Warbler	66	670	Union	(108)
Worm-eating Warbler	25	99	Union	(47)
Ovenbird	63	499	Cook	(89)
Northern Waterthrush	62	634	Cook	(183)
Louisiana Waterthrush	59	235*	Union	(25)
Kentucky Warbler	56	431	Union	(78)
Mourning Warbler	6	8	Winnebago	(3)
Common Yellowthroat	98#	4280	Union	(244)
Hooded Warbler	20	57	Hardin	(10)
Wilson's Warbler	19	41	Cook	(15)
Canada Warbler	6	19	Cook	(8)
Yellow-breasted Chat	67	486*	Union	(62)
Summer Tanager	40	348*	Union	(100)
Scarlet Tanager	83	833	Cook	(87)
Eastern Towhee	97*	1743	Jackson	(76)
American Tree Sparrow	1	1	McDonough	(1)
Chipping Sparrow	100*	4744	Winnebago	(318)
Clay-colored Sparrow	5	15	Cook	(6)
Field Sparrow	98	3377	Jo Daviess	(165)
Vesper Sparrow	49	226	Jo Daviess	(30)
Lark Sparrow	37	350*	Jo Daviess	*(176)
Savannah Sparrow	65	871	Cook	*(167)
Grasshopper Sparrow	67	1176	Jo Daviess	*(529)
Henslow's Sparrow	22*	141*	Union	(37)
Le Conte's Sparrow	1	1	Cook	(1)
Song Sparrow	99	4911	Du Page	(513)
Lincoln's Sparrow	29	172	Cook	(89)
Swamp Sparrow	56	1202	Cook	(328)
White-throated Sparrow	88	2987	Cook	(1025)
Harris's Sparrow	3	3	Three counties	(1)
White-crowned Sparrow	91	4821	Cook	(1785)
Dark-eyed Junco	5	13	Winnebago	(6)
Lapland Longspur	3	79	Winnebago	(69)
Smith's Longspur	1	1	McDonough	(1)
Northern Cardinal	101	10842	Cook	(570)
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	95	2911	Cook	(265)
Blue Grosbeak	31*	88	Massac	(13)
Indigo Bunting	101#	7973*	Union	(674)
Dickcissel	78#	1951	Union	(107)
Bobolink	68	2698	Pike	(325)
Red-winged Blackbird	101	60737	McHenry	(2925)
Eastern Meadowlark	101	6515	Richland	(312)
Western Meadowlark	24	209	Jo Daviess	*(101)
Yellow-headed Blackbird	11	138	Lake	(70)
Rusty Blackbird	1	1	Massac	(1)
Brewer's Blackbird	1	7	Lake	(7)
Common Grackle	101	33213	Cook	(1785)
Brown-headed Cowbird	101	9974	Rock Island	(751)
Orchard Oriole	78	569	Union	(53)
Baltimore Oriole	101*	5384	Du Page	(366)
Purple Finch	32	166	Knox	(20)
House Finch	97	4190	Edgar	(326)
Red Crossbill	1	6	Lake	(6)
White-winged Crossbill	1#	1	Morgan	(1)
Pine Siskin	15	58	Du Page	(30)
American Goldfinch	101*	13150	Cook	(1223)
House Sparrow	101	21384	Cook	(2231)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	26*	460	Schuyler	(74)
"EXOTICS"				
[Trumpeter Swan	None	None	N/A	(none)]
[Ringed Turtle-Dove	None	None	N/A	(none)]

county records were: White-faced Ibis (4th year), Ross's Goose (2nd year), Purple Gallinule (4th year), Black-necked Stilt (5th year), Lesser Black-backed Gull (4th year), Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (4th year), Smith's Longspur (8th year), and White-winged Crossbill (3rd year). The most interesting records of the 12 species reported from only two counties were: Bonaparte's Gull (why only 2 counties?) and Western Kingbird (6th year). Some of the species that might have been present on Count Day, but went unreported this year include Eared Grebe, Greater White-fronted Goose, Greater Scaup, Franklin's Gull, and Fox Sparrow.

No Ringed Turtle-Doves were reported this year, and the 2 Gray Partridge in De Kalb County, has kept the species hanging in there for all 29 counts. The Eurasian Collared-Dove is a species on the move; it was reported from 6 counties this year (twice as many as last year). Athough not a countable species, Lake County had a Lawrence's Warbler that has been included in the tables. Since in 2000 there were no new species added to the composite Spring Bird Count List, the list remains unchanged at 321 species.

There were 72 new count records (Table 6) and 32 species were reported from a greater number of counties than ever before; 28 species achieved a new count-day total number of birds; and 12 species were found in record numbers in a single county. In addition, there were 31 records that tied the previous highs.

Some of the "positive" reports for this Count were good numbers of herons and egrets, both vultures, Wild Turkeys, hummingbirds, several flycatcher species, most vireos, Indigo Buntings, and grassland birds, especially at the Savanna Army Depot.

On the other hand, where were the ducks, the moorhens, most shorebirds (including golden-plovers), the less common gulls (especially Bonaparte's), the terns, Red-headed Woodpeckers, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and most migrant warblers?

Another question: were there really only 5141 Rock Docks and 32,695 starlings in Illinois on Count Day?

County Statistics

County statistics (Table 7) serves a useful purpose because it identifies how much time and effort were spent in each county to count birds. Without this information the results could not be analyzed in a meaningful way. It was interesting to compare the results in Table 7 for this year with those of last year. In many cases, the number of observers, number of parties, the starting and stopping times, and miles and hours walked and driven are quite similar; and when they were similar, the total number of species reported for those particular counties was also quite similar. However, when those numbers were lower or higher, it was similarly reflected in the number of species reported. As a couple of examples: Boone and Calhoun Counties in 2000 had 6 and 5 more parties, respectively, and 11

TABLE 7: County Statistics

County	Area	Number of Sp.	Number of Birds	Number of Obs.	Ptys	TIME Start-End	Miles W/D	Hours W/D	County Compiler
Adams	3	129	5,388	13	4	*0000-2100*	9/318	12/21	Al Dierkes
Alexander	1	118	3,222	8	3	*0505-1615	6/127	2/27	Ida Domazlicky
Bond	2	91	3,149	3	1	0600-2025	3/143	5/9	Charley Marbut
Boone	4	139	9,812	27	15	0530-2015	89/332	85/22	Arlene Brei
Brown	3	141	2,201	2	1	*0300-1830	6/200	8/5	Michael Ward
Bureau	4	116	4,203	1	1	0515-1800	6/156	6/7	Doug Stotz
Calhoun	2	139	9,706	20	14	*0500-2330*	22/367	18/51	Wilda Sutherland
Carroll	4	141	7,520	4	2	*0200-1730	5/214	9/9	Jeffrey Baughman
Cass	3	104	1,130	1	1	0530-1815	3/161	8/5	Robert Randall
Champaign	3	159	8,761	35	20	*0330-2000	69/365	104/25	Beth Chato
Christian	2	127	4,812	11	5	*0300-1820	20/236	37/11	Clark Olson
Clark	2	79	2,658	10	7	0715-2115*	19/119	13/16	Donna Clem
Clay	2	63	707	2	2	*0450-1300	4/16	7/2	Terry Esker
Clinton	2	166	6,618	8	4	*0000-2025	30/276	29/15	Dan Kassebaum
Coles	2	128	4,759	18	9	*0445-2230*	20/54	30/8	Tyler Funk
Cook	4	190	50,678	106	47	*0425-2115*	233/375	309/30	Duane Heaton
Crawford	2	117	5,630	19	10	*0515-1930	14/423	19/59	Patricia Neighbors
Cumberland	2	112	1,809	6	2	*0400-2000	10/63	12/4	Larry Thorsen
De Kalb	4	119	4,460	8	5	*0430-2045	20/217	35/13	Darrell Shambaugh
De Witt	3	120	2,399	8	6	0530-2000	11/178	21/6	L. Ishmael–Miller
Douglas	2	100	3,372	8	3	*0400-2020	8/257	9/15	Ted Funk
Du Page	4	165	22,975	115	36	*0400-2015	210/316	225/18	Bob Fisher
Edgar	2	100	8,797	35	13	*0400-2200*	30/471	36/143	Mary Ida Riedell
Edwards	1	90	3,330	6	4	0620-2020	4/125	6/21	Elaine Michels
Effingham	2	110	4,157	6	4	*0505-2100*	7/237	20/11	Mary Ann Hoeffliger
Fayette	2	85	960	7	5	*0100-2000	11/61	23/32	Arthur Jones
Ford	3	51	488	2	1	0510-1740	4/16	7/1	Larry David
Franklin	1	113	1,104	2	1	*0000-2020	8/22	9/2	Leonard Stanley
Fulton	3	112	4,821	16	5	0500-1900	18/414	13/35	Helen Gasdorf
Gallatin	1	100	1,038	1	1	*0300-2030	4/132	8/6	Ron Bradley
Greene	2	103	953	3	1	*0500-1600	5/76	6/4	Helen Wuestenfeld
Grundy	4	71	1,689	9	5	0545-1530	11/51	5/10	Robert Crane
Hamilton	1	115	3,725	9	8	0600-2400*	14/186	16/37	Hazel Clark
Hancock	3	128	6,278	10	5	*0440-1900	13/451	15/38	Phillip Tuttle
Hardin	1	107	2,275	7	6	*0500-1900	8/128	4/17	Elizabeth Raikes
Henderson	3	132	2,838	6	3	*0330-2030	21/180	29/9	Chuck Leib
Henry	4	101	1,462	2	1	*0330-1700	4/88	7/4	Randy Nyboer
Iroquois	3	104	4,399	14	8	0500-2100*	25/190	36/26	Robert Dannehl
Jackson	1	143	7,012	8	4	*0345-2115*	10/360	14/24	Paul Biggers
Jasper	2	132	3,861	2	1	*0000-1630	7/87	7/4	Jeff Walk
Jefferson	1	90	830	4	2	0700-1600	3/50	8/1	Florence Glass
Jersey	2	112	3,445	9	2	0630-1705	1/123	2/19	Gilbert Ives
Jo Daviess	4	137	12,632	33	8	0430-1850	26/574	30/68	Grace Storch
Johnson	1	122	2,578	8	3	*0400-2020	5/100	11/9	Ray Boehmer
Kane	4	146	14,059	64	25	0530-2030	144/406	151/21	Robert Montgomery
Kankakee	4	129	4,690	21	8	0545-2125*	29/151	26/13	Etta Aubertin
Kendall	4	118	3,488	19	9	0540-2100*	22/199	34/24	Dave Ramsden
Knox	3	168	12,234	32	18	*0100-2115*	46/717	62/57	Phil Reyburn
Lake	4	188	19,720	51	25	*0330-2130*	111/505	146/25	Danny Diaz
La Salle	4	158	11,443	30	17	*0400-2200*	83/816	80/51	John McKee
Lawrence	2	102	1,429	3	1	0545-1830	4/136	8/5	Jim Garner

and 6 more party hours walked, respectively, than they had 1999; and the species totals they reported increased from 124 to 139 and 123 to 139, respectively. There were similar examples for counties with lower numbers. If this same philosophy was used in Lake or Cook counties, there may be little gain in species with the addition of more observers, but it is possible that there might be fewer species if the total number of walking hours (especially along the lakefront) was noticeably decreased.

Even though it's been nearly three years now since the A.O.U. upgraded the names of certain species (such as the Baltimore Oriole) and the taxonomic order of certain species groups (such as the vultures, shrikes, vireos and "grosbeaks" in particular), it's still challenging for some of us to "get used to" these changes, especially on the new checklists and current report forms. Although the computerized identification numbers for Illinois' species have not yet changed on the Spring Bird Count data forms, the "official" species names and listing sequence have been used on those data forms and in this report.

TABLE 7: County Statistics (cont.)

County	Area	Number of Sp.	Number of Birds	Number of Obs.	Ptys	TIME Start-End	Miles W/D	Hours W/D	County Compiler
Lee	4	115	2,470	6	4	*0430-2000	10/147	21/10	John Bivins
Livingston	3	114	3,844	20	8	0520-2000	12/30	11/12	Joe Jobst
Logan	3	105	3,755	20	11	0540-2015	19/323	27/22	Margaret Lanterman
Macon	3	95	2,491	18	12	*0100-2400*	24/234	41/19	Ross Thompson
Macoupin	2	79	1,075	3	1	*0415-1725	1/70	7/4	Vicki Hedrick
Madison	2	141	6,253	9	5	*0330-2000	22/280	33/18	Frank Holmes
Marion	2	127	1,095	4	2	*0430-1720	2/135	3/16	Terry Esker
Marshall	3	54	1,561	3	1	0530-1700	2/155	3/8	Mary Hill
Mason	3	140	7,196	13	5	*0450-2030	29/211	36/18	Richard Bjorklund
Massac	1	166	5,118	4	3	*0130-2000	23/185	29/12	Frank Bennett
McDonough	3	144	11,841	42	25	*0400-2230*	73/418	103/49	David Benson
McHenry	4	145	12,858	49	22	*0415-2030	62/498	72/41	David Frey
McLean	3	141	7,039	9	4	*0500-2000	11/329	20/23	Dale Birkenholz
Menard	3	102	1,383	4	4	0530-1900	14/46	13/16	Kenneth Lockhart
Mercer	4	128	3,838	2	2	*0100-2120*	18/202	9/16	Bill Bertrand
Monroe	1	111	4,656	11	6	*0535-1950	9/231	16/24	Mary Regan
Montgomery	2	72	558	2	2	0540-1615	6/85	6/4	Mark Phipps
Morgan	2	110	2,800	4	2	0535-1730	6/106	6/11	Peggy Leverett
Moultrie	2	98	2,116	3	2	*0530-1730	12/81	13/3	Eric Smith
Ogle	4	92	1,702	2	2	*0505-1900	12/89	15/4	Bob Severson
Peoria	3	130	4,568	4	2	0520-2025	10/215	11/12	Mike Miller
Perry	1	100	783	2	2	0525-2025	5/10	10/2	Joey Vancil
Piatt	3	115	3,074	17	10	*0300-2200*	25/72	32/10	Elaine Regehr
Pike	2	143	8,432	26	13	*0400-2230*	8/312	32/41	Evelyn Hoover
Pope	1	111	1,916	8	6	0500-1945	17/130	30/13	Daniel Spivey
Pulaski	1	118	2,703	6	4	*0400-2030	7/245	7/31	Bob Lindsay
Randolph	1	138	4,531	7	5	*0415-1935	32/298	33/11	Ann Sanders
Richland	2	102	5,973	13	7	0545-1930	14/412	19/32	Frank Storment
Rock Island	4	122	8,013	14	7	*0420-2035	28/320	24/24	Tim Murphy
St. Clair	1	151	6,871	13	10	*0430-2025	22/387	335/35	Richard Call
Saline	1	99	1,060	2	1	0520-2010	2/86	10/4	Kathy Phelps
Sangamon	2	148	4,655	5	4	*0400-2130*	24/284	27/11	H. David Bohlen
Schuyler	3	80	2,706	59	4	0630-1945	8/38	11/32	Harold Hedden
Scott	2	111	1,862	8	3	0525-1815	10/171	17/11	Steve Tavender
Shelby	2	143	3,718	7	4	*0320-2120*	11/282	16/18	Karen Forcum
Stark	3	56	539	3	1	0550-1530	1/59	1/8	Paul Kreisa
Stephenson	4	88	2,094	17	4	0600-2200*	14/181	9/8	George Visel
Tazewell	3	89	3,408	3	1	0545-2045	6/140	4/11	Tracy Fox
Union	1	166	8,431	10	6	*0000-2050	23/497	33/27	Vernon Kleen
Vermilion	3	138	9,126	13	8	*0430-2030	31/588	39/37	Marilyn Campbell
Wabash	1	86	1,234	9	6	0630-2010	12/97	26/13	Gary Adams
Warren	3	76	2,159	16	14	0600-1000	14/142	16/10	Lynne Schoonover
Washington	1	95	728	4	3	0530-2030	4/45	11/2	Martin Kemper
Wayne	1	57	407	1	1	*0230-2020	5/100	6/7	George Rose
White	1	88	948	5	3	0600-1700	8/52	14/6	Doris Williams
Whiteside	4	122	3,099	9	5	0600-2200	22/344	19/28	Carol Jackley
Will	4	161	20,851	43	23	*0330-2130*	87/1034	140/60	Jim Kelly
Williamson	1	137	3,870	11	6	*0415-2045	15/256	17/33	Tracy Evans
Winnebago	4	169	16,647	29	12	*0400-2100*	80/528	109/25	Jack Armstrong
Woodford	3	111	3,577	4	2	0530-2030	8/150	5/10	Brenda Garman

Acknowledgments

As usual, credit for this report goes to everyone who counted birds on Count Day. All of your assistance is very much appreciated. Many thanks, in particular, to the county coordinators and compilers (identified in Table 7) whose dedication and continued support are very much appreciated. For some of you that's been all 29 years. Special thanks to Dottie Kissick (IDNR data operator) for data entry and retrieval so this report could be completed more easily. As a result of everyone's collective efforts, the 2000 Spring Bird Count is now a part of Illinois' ornithological history and can be reported as another very successful event. Thanks to all.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

2001 SPRING BIRD COUNT

Saturday, 5 May 2001

Final Comment: As already mentioned a couple of times, one Spring Bird Count goal (for all of us) is to field a minimum of 1 party in every Illinois county every year. Perhaps some of you (without jeopardizing the count in your home counties) would be willing to assist in a more distant county — especially one that regularly has 4 or fewer observers. Check these out in Figure 1 and let me know if you can help. The entire team, all 1500 of us, can feel the pride of accomplishing this annual goal. With your help, 2001 will be the first year of many consecutive years the goal is achieved.

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Bird Conservation Network:
Working in Concert with Habitat Restorationists

by Judy Pollock

The Bird Conservation Network began in the fall of 1996 as a small group of bird conservationists from various northeastern Illinois birding organizations who were concerned about whether habitat restoration decisions were taking into account the needs of local bird populations. Brush removal in Cherry Hill Forest Preserve, a shrubland habitat in Cook County that attracted breeding Yellow-breasted Chat and Blue-winged Warbler, brought the growing concerns of some birders to a head. Alan Anderson, Chicago Audubon Society's research chair and long-time bird conservationist, helped organize a meeting to discuss ways to educate ourselves about the restoration process and develop better ways to bring birders' knowledge into conservation decision-making.

We decided to begin by educating ourselves with a conference, and quickly organized more formally, meeting with public officials and conservation groups. Chicago Audubon Society graciously agreed to take our mail and phone messages. Terry Schilling, our treasurer, got us organized with by-laws, non-profit status, and a bank account. We developed a vision and a way of operating: we strove to be a democratic and inclusive organization that would serve as a point of contact in the birding community for bird conservation issues.

Four years later, the Bird Conservation Network has become a thriving coalition of 16 birding and conservation organizations in Northeastern Illinois, with a mission of conserving bird habitat. Our members include Chicago Audubon Society; Chicago Ornithological Society; Chicagoland Bird Observatory; DuPage Audubon; DuPage Birding Club; Evanston-North Shore Bird Club; Fort Dearborn Chapter, Illinois Audubon Society; Kane County Audubon; Lake-Cook Chapter, Illinois Audubon Society; the National Audubon Society Chicago Wilderness Program; Park Ridge Audubon; The Nature Conservancy Bird Committee; Thorn Creek Audubon; Will County Audubon; and our newest member, the Illinois Ornithological Society.

Much of our most fruitful work has been in partnerships with such organizations as Chicago Wilderness, the Field Museum, and Friends of the Forest Preserves. We work to bring the best scientific advisors' perspectives to conservation projects and the public. We have offered two conferences, one in 1997, Birds and Habitat Management, and another in 1999 on migratory bird habitat.

An ongoing project is the BCN Census monitoring program conducted by the region's birders who record their results on a web-based database housed at the Field Museum. (http://www.fmnh.org/birdcensus>www.fmnh.org/birdcensus). Participants and coordinators work in five Chicagoland counties. Three protocols range in difficulty from a simple checklist of birds seen to a regular point count. Every birder can participate. Monitors who work in restoration areas belong to the Volunteer Stewardship Network. Coming soon is a site integrated with Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's BirdSource. Users will be able to click the spot they visited on a map and enter bird sightings, and they will also be able to retrieve information from any area in our region about any species.

Our conservation campaigns grow as needed, according to the issues that arise and the energies of our volunteers. We recruit people to represent the interests of birds and their habitat needs on important task forces and projects. These include Lake Calumet, Midewin, Pratt's Wayne Woods/Fermilab, Bartel Grasslands, Paul Douglas Preserves, Glenview NAS Prairie, Grant Park, Montrose, Lincoln Park Bird Sanctuary, Burnham Harbor, McCormick Place, Chicago Park District landscaping guidelines, Lake Michigan recovery plan, and Mayor Daley's Wildlife committee. The last eight fall under the aegis of our Lake Front Bird Habitat Task Force, co-chaired by Chris Williamson, Leslie Borns, and Terry Schilling. Mayor Daley's interest in improving city bird habitat spawned many citizen participation efforts in which we have been able to participate. Our representatives provide quarterly updates on our campaigns, and secretary Lee Ramsey

mails the information to member clubs. Vice President Donald Dann represents BCN on the policy council of the American Bird Conservancy, of which we are a member, and has spearheaded our efforts to support the Conservation and Reinvestment Act, legislation that would dedicate a portion of federal income from offshore oil and natural gas leases to protect wildlife habitat. BCN has also published two green papers that contain current research on management recommendations, one on lakefront bird habitat, and the other on birds of our local grasslands. Expect another on shrubland habitat soon.

We are a creation of our member clubs: their financial support, newsletter coverage, and most importantly, the talents and energies of their representatives to BCN make us what we are. Grants from Chicago Wilderness and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources have also supported our projects. Our next challenge is to widen the geographic reach of our activities, which are heavily concentrated in Cook County.

We have many opportunities for involvement. The BCN has offered active participants a chance to develop their talents including leadership skills and to feel proud of making a difference for bird conservation. Artists, writers, publicists, organizers, spokespersons, web designers, bird lovers, dreamers, and doers — you can get involved.

The BCN office is at Harms Woods Conservation Center in Skokie, and is maintained by Chicago Wilderness Audubon, which supports citizen conservation efforts. Call (847) 965-1150 x23.

As I listened to a Chicago City Council subcommittee meeting recently called to consider adopting the Chicago Wilderness Recovery Plan, I was surprised to hear that the first two speakers, both heads of city agencies, using statistics and language straight out of our green paper. Birders are a talented, energetic, and powerful voice in our community. The Bird Conservation Network has taught many of us just how effective and far-reaching that voice can be.

— Judy Pollock, Founding President
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Editors Note: Bob Fisher is the new President of BCN.

SEASONAL HIGHLIGHTS – SPRING MIGRATION 2000

Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*) at Chain O' Lakes State Park

On 15 March 2000 I had begun my day birding the east edge of Lake County. I began at North Beach in Waukegan and progressed up the shore to Illinois Beach State Park, Camp Logan, and North Point Marina in Winthrop Harbor.

As a manager at a grocery chain, I am usually only fortunate enough to have one day off per week. On my day off, I usually strategically plan to cover as many areas as possible, searching for species I may need for the year.

I decided to begin 15 March along the shoreline, ride my mountain bike up the 13-mile trek on the Des Plaines River Trail from Gurnee through Wadsworth, and then, after picking up my daughter from school, head to Chain O' Lakes State Park in McHenry and Lake Counties.

My goal was to search the pine grove behind the main office building for Long-eared Owls, which we had seen there (13+) several years ago. I also wanted to search near the gigantic hopper feeder in front of the office which I had Harris' Sparrow and Rusty Blackbirds in years past.

The day was productive for me, since I added seven new birds to my 2000 Lake County list as well as got quite a workout.

After picking up my daughter from school, we headed west for the half hour ride to Chain O' Lakes State Park. The weather had been in the 40s since the day before, under mostly cloudy skies. Winds were out of the southwest at 10-15 mph, but a steady rain had developed on the way.

As we entered the park, past the guard house about 1/4 mile we began scanning the flooded fields to the east. As I looked through the rain-freckled windows at the ponds we saw several ducks feeding in the pouring rain.

Cracking the window slightly, I began to scan the pond with my binoculars. Shovelers. Gadwall. American Wigeon. And a Eurasian! (*Anas penelope*) Quickly, I grabbed my Kowa scope and window mount. A beautiful male Eurasian Wigeon, a rare vagrant in Illinois!

His rich rufous head with a buffy forehead/crown stripe stood out, even in the gloominess of the day. Even though he was in the company of eight American Wigeons, he seemed to have his own agenda, feeding in his own space, while others seemed to huddle nearby. His sides were pale gray and his breast was a shade of rufous. My daughter quickly jumped up front to get a view from the scope. Meanwhile, I grabbed my cell phone to call Richard

Biss (Chicago Rare Bird Alert), Danny Diaz, and Dave Johnson. Unfortunately, all three were at work and I did not have my camera with me.

Fortunately, the wigeon remained for several days so they and scores of others were able see and photograph him in all his splendor.

One of the most recent accepted records of Eurasian Wigeon in Illinois was a male discovered at Moraine View State Park in McLean County in 1997 (*Meadowlark* 8:56).

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Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*) at Springbrook Prairie

On 24 May 2000, Pat Newman and I walked the edge of the marshy creek that runs west from the main parking lot at Springbrook Prairie Forest Preserve in DuPage County. We were looking for Least Bitterns, often found along this man-made creek during spring migration. Pat walked along the south side and I walked on the north side. Near the west end of the creek a Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow popped up, so I called Pat to come around to my side to see this bird. She joined me after a 10-minute walk around the west end; of course the Nelson's was nowhere in sight by then.

In front of us was a small isolated marshy area where the sparrow had disappeared. I walked the perimeter, hoping the sparrow would reappear for Pat, but it didn't. Just as we decided to head back to the parking lot, a bird began loudly calling from the small marsh. Kik-kee-doo. Kik-kee-doo.

We both were stunned by this unmistakable call of a bird neither of us had ever heard before – a Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*) . The rail called continuously for several minutes, at which time we decided to go to my house to listen to a tape. The bird was still calling as we left. (The Nelson's cooperatively popped up again for Pat's benefit). While in the car, checking the mnemonic for Black Rail in the National Geographic Guide to Birds of North America convinced me we had heard this species. Listening to a tape of the bird's call further convinced me.

IBET, the DuPage Birding Club hotline and various other formal and informal phone chains were notified, and the word quickly spread. Numerous birders visited Springbrook and heard the bird calling over the next few weeks. A few lucky people were treated to fleeting glimpses of this elusive rail. Some even heard two birds calling, suggesting the possibility of a breeding attempt. Because of this possibility, DuPage County Forest Preserve District biologists decided to cordon off the marsh, restricting close approach. County biologists also recruited monitors to check for possible breeding. No one confirmed any breeding evidence of the bird and it was last heard 22 June 2000.

A good number of birders were able to at least hear this elusive and reclusive rail, a rare migrant and rare summer resident in Illinois and endangered in the state. This species once bred regularly in the Calumet River area and in central Illinois, though not in great numbers. Wetland destruction and degradation is probably the cause for this bird's demise.

The first Illinois nesting record of Black Rail was recorded 18 June 1875 when 10 eggs were found near the Calumet River (Bohlen 1989).

Some Illinois observers recently heard Black Rails singing during the breeding months in Illinois. Mike Ward heard a Black Rail June and July 1997 at Richardson Wildlife Area in Lee County near the Green River Conservation Area (Meadowlark 7:33). Kevin Richmond also saw a Black Rail and heard it singing day and night on three separate days in June 1996 at Matanzas Prairie in Mason County (Meadowlark 6:32). Eric Walters heard a Black Rail 1 July 1988 at Frontenac Marsh in DuPage County (Illinois Birds and Birding 5:16).

Wetland restoration efforts are making high-quality habitat available for this and other marsh dwellers. Perhaps Illinois birders will have a greater chance in the future to hear and see the Black Rail.

Literature Cited

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An Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*) at Great Lakes Naval Training Center

On 3 June 2000, Mike Madsen, Jeff Sanders, Al Stokie, and I were standing on the edge of the beach in the Great Lakes harbor, at the point where the sandy spit comes closest to what is normally a small island. Because of the low water level this year, the island was now connected to the beach by an expanse of wet sand. Many Common Terns (*Sterna hirundo*) were flying, engaging in courting displays, and carrying fish to others perched on the island sand. Among the Commons were also Forster's (*Sterna forsteri*) and Caspian (*Sterna caspia*) Terns.

As we watched, a tern flew over making the higher, thinner call of an Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*). I looked up, expecting to see another Common Tern with a strange call, but the bird had a shorter-necked, longer-tailed appearance in flight. It flew several circles over the water of the harbor and approached the sandy spit and island. It had a lighter, more buoyant flight than that the Common Terns nearby. It called again, making the same thin, higher-pitched sound unlike the deeper, raspy calls of the Commons, and then it landed out of view behind some grass on the other (south) side of the "island." My curiosity was piqued further when Jeff Sanders called to me and asked if I had seen "that tern with the long tail." We moved in to find the bird.

As we rounded the west side of the island, we got an open view of the terns perched on the south side. There were eight to ten medium-sized terns, mostly Commons. A pair of Commons was copulating. Several others were carrying fish and calling. I saw one tern sitting by itself, about 5-6 feet away from two Commons, and was able to get my telescope on it from a distance which, as we moved closer, ranged from 60 to 90 feet.

The subject had a gray back, with uniform gray on the wings, including the primary extension and a pearl gray breast, flanks, and belly. The side of the face where it met the neck was off-white, contrasting with both the black crown and nape as well as the gray neck and breast. This patch extended toward the throat, but seemed to end there. The overall effect was a horizontal white patch that contrasted with the breast and head, and which was confined to the lower face and side of the neck. The wing tips did not extend beyond the tail, but were shorter than the tail. The color of the folded primaries was gray, and did not particularly contrast with the gray back and coverts. The bill was a deep, blood red, lacking any black or other dark markings. The legs were pinkish red. The bill was notably darker and redder than the orange-red bills of the nearby Commons, and all of the Commons and Forster's which we saw had some amount of dark marking on their bills. The bill of the subject seemed somewhat smaller than the Commons, but the bird was not close enough to really get a definitive feeling about comparative size of bills.

As we watched, the bird started to walk, then run, toward the nearby Commons, at which point I was able to see that it was clearly shorter legged than the Commons. The bird appeared shorter-necked, more delicate, and smaller than the Commons.

About this time, a jogger came running along the edge of the water on the island and put all of the terns into the air. With the sun in good position behind us, we got excellent views of the subject in flight. We saw that the under wings were completely white except for a very fine, uniform, and distinct blackish terminal bar on the trailing edge of the outer primaries, but that did not extend to the inner primaries. The Common and Forster's nearby had irregular, thicker, and more extensive dark trailing edges on their under wings. The leading edge of the outer primary had no black at all and, as seen from the underside, was paler than the dark trailing edge of the primaries. The upper wing was uniformly pearly gray, lacking the black leading edge of the Commons or the white outer primaries of the Forster's nearby. There was no contrast at all on the dorsal surface of the wing.

In flight, the tail was much longer in proportion to the body profile than the Common or Forster's, and it was more deeply forked. The bird flew around several times over our heads, then headed out into Lake Michigan and did not return.

We discussed what we had observed, and agreed that the bird was an Arctic Tern. Roseate (*Sterna dougalli*) was eliminated based on upper and lower wing characteristics, breast color (no rosy tones at this season) and the lack of a white breast or belly. Roseate also has an all-white under wing except for a dark leading edge on the outer primary, and lacks a dark trailing edge to the outer primaries. Forster's was eliminated based on breast color, the upper and under wing differences, tail with a shallower fork and not as long as the subject, plus the observed differences in beak size, shape, and color.

Common Tern, which we agreed was the most likely competing possibility, was eliminated based on under and upper wing differences, the subject's shorter legs, bill length, proportions and color, and the white "whisker area" on the side of the face, in addition to the differences in flight characteristics and profile. Taken in combination, all marks led to Arctic Tern.

When I returned home, I played a tape of Arctic Terns, which I had recorded in Churchill, Manitoba, in June 1997, and the voice was identical to the calls I heard at Great Lakes.

The Arctic Tern at Great Lakes represents the sixth accepted record of this species for Illinois. The first accepted record was found by H. David Bohlen and confirmed with photos 28 June 1992 at Lake Springfield, Sangamon County. (See *Meadowlark* 2:12). The second was recorded 27 May 1993 at Brandon Road Lock and Dam in Will County. (See *Meadowlark* 2:140). The third record was recorded during the Spring Bird Count at Braidwood Lake in Will County 6 May 1996. (See *Meadowlark* 4: 140). The fourth and fifth records were found on Waukegan Beach in Lake County (See *Meadowlark* 6:138. In that issue H. David Bohlen predicted the Arctic Tern might prove to be a regular Waukegan Beach visitor if observers check the area in late May or early June when winds are from the northeast).

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Immature Male Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*) in Lake County

My husband, Bill, and I have many bird feeders and running water in our Wadsworth yard in Lake County, and after several days of heavy rain we were glad to see the sun the morning of 21 April 2000.

We have two goldfinch feeders near our picture window in the living room. As I watched the goldfinches feeding, I noticed a new bird eating with them. It was the same size as the goldfinches, but had quite a different color. Its head, back, tail, and wings were green, and I detected a little brown in the wings and tail. The pale buff breast had a hint of yellow. The bird also had a white eye ring.

After checking several books, reading, and looking at the bird again and again, I decided it was a female Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*). I called Richard Biss of the Chicago Rare Bird Alert. Within a short time, he, his wife, Mary and their two daughters, Grace and Ellen, were at my home. They spent a good share of the afternoon taking pictures and observing the bird. Richard agreed it was a Painted Bunting, but he said it was probably an immature male, not a female.

Immature male Painted Bunting at feeder. 21 April 2000. Lake County. Photo by Richard Biss.

Richard called other birders, and by late afternoon and early evening, I had a parade of people coming to see the bunting, as well as more on the next day and the day after that. At least 24 people on 22 April and 9 on 23 April came to view the bunting. They took notes and more pictures, and agreed it was an immature male Painted Bunting.

Observers watched as the bird ate thistle seed for 15 to 20 minutes at a time, then flew to an evergreen tree in the yard to rest and preen. However, the bird become more wary of people and we had to be careful not to disturb it. The last time it was seen was Sunday morning, 23 April 2000.

I'm an avid birder, but still a beginner, having only started after I took early retirement from nursing six years ago. What a surprise to discover a lifer in my backyard so early in my birding career!

This bird represents the fourth state record for Painted Bunting. The third record, an adult male, visited Ewing Park in McLean County 10 May 1999, and remained until at least 22 May. At least 300 people came to see it (Meadowlark 8:128-129). Ann Minckler found the state's first Painted Bunting, a male in breeding plumage, in Jackson County. It remained there from 20-22 May (Meadowlark 2:127-128). An immature male Painted Bunting was killed by flying into a window at McCormick Place in Chicago 10 October 1996 (Meadowlark 6:66), making it the first specimen record for Illinois.

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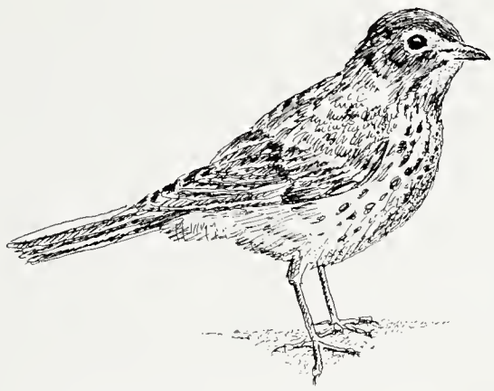
Editor's Note: Illinois' fifth record of Painted Bunting was discovered 29 July 2000 near East St. Louis. But more exciting was the fact that this bird was also confirmed breeding in the state. The next issue of Meadowlark, Vol. 10 No. 1, will feature photos and a story by Dan Kassebaum about the first confirmed nesting of the Painted Bunting in Illinois.



Field Notes

Drawing of Swainson's Thrush by Brian K. Willis.

The 2000 Spring Migration

by Paul R. Clyne

The spring 2000 migration was atypical, with a peculiar imbalance of bleak failures and record-breaking successes. For birders who measure the worth of a spring's migration by its warblers, this was an impoverished season over much of the state. Turning to less-targeted migrants, however, the spring was a clear success. The scarcer species of sparrows, for example, were very well represented at many sites, and shorebirds were nothing short of spectacular—at times outdoing even their best fall performances!

The season set more than its due share of record migration dates and all-time high counts. Excluding exotics and species under review by the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee (IORC), a total of 296 species were reported this season, and migration data of one sort or another were reported for all but 23 of these. Among the 273 migrants, 14 set or tied record early Illinois arrival dates (and another ten provided second earliest records), nine set record late spring dates, and 12 attained record all-time high counts for the state. Against the backdrop of 100+ years of Illinois ornithology, these are impressive totals for a single spring.

Most of the significantly early migrants arrived in March, reflecting the mildness of the preceding winter across the nation and record warmth beginning the last week of February. At Chicago's Jackson Park, for example, species diversity recorded amid the first major warm front (through 8 Mar) was over two weeks ahead of average, and by the end of the month 30% of the migrants there had set record early dates for the site, and another 30% put in their second or third earliest appearances in 20 years.

Highlights among the early spring arrivals include Greater Yellowlegs at Springfield and Tree Swallows in northern Illinois by 3 Mar, Smith's Longspur on 4 Mar, Solitary and Least Sandpipers on 18 Mar, Yellow-crowned Night-Heron at Springfield on 22 Mar, Little Gull at Mermet Lake on 25 Mar, and Caspian Tern at Chicago on 31 Mar.

The flurry of early activity subsided by April, and the middle third of migration was mundane to poor statewide. Among the few highlights were significant early dates for Chuck-will's- Widow and Western Kingbird, and a remarkable tally of 720 Brewer's Blackbirds on 1 Apr. The northern tier of Illinois was a bit colder and wetter than normal in April, while the rest of the state suffered from drought. The drought was severe in Sangamon County, adversely affecting marsh and grassland species, but providing good mudflats for shorebirds.

Neotropical songbirds did not arrive in force until the first of May, and their numbers and diversity dwindled rapidly after 20 May. Among the warblers, only Tennessee showed notably strong migrations statewide. Kentucky Warbler and Northern Parula were in good numbers in southern Illinois, but not elsewhere. Doug Stotz noted his "best spring ever" in northeastern Illinois in terms of season totals for Cape May, Blackpoll, Tennessee, and Wilson's Warblers. Among the worst showings statewide were Orange-crowned, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, and Blackburnian Warblers. Warbler diversity was terrible at some sites; e.g., one experienced observer in north-central Illinois enumerated no less than fourteen expected warbler species that were missed entirely, despite daily birding in May!

Fortunately, there's more to spring than warblers. Shorebirds as a group enjoyed perhaps their best spring migration in living memory, with numerous noteworthy early records and remarkable high counts. Of special note was the flight of 18 May at Lake Michigan, when warm fronts out of both the Southeast and Southwest converged into a dome of Canadian air centered over the Chicago area. This same front collision also yielded a more localized fallout of passerines. See the individual shorebird accounts for the record dates and big numbers.

Sparrows also had strong passages, especially in the northern half of the state. Observers contributed noteworthy

high counts for Chipping, Clay-colored, Vesper, Savannah, Henslow's, White-throated, and White-crowned Sparrows, and both Longspurs were in healthy numbers. But the cited data don't give the whole picture, since much of the sparrow success was not in one- day tallies, but rather in steady occurrences at a variety of sites. The scarcer grassland species in particular were easier to find this spring, although one-day counts remained predictably low. As in most recent migrations, Towhee numbers were poor.

Notably heavy migrations were also undertaken by Pied-billed Grebe, American White Pelican, and Greater White-fronted and Ross's Geese. Among passerines, American Pipit stands out as the biggest success of the season statewide. The concentrations of swallows at Heyworth on 1 May were remarkable on a local level.

Unimpressive to low numbers for several northern species reflect the mildness of the winter and are no cause for concern. Included in this lot are most of the diving ducks (although Greater Scaup was unaccountably scarce), several species of raptors, the larger gulls, winter finches, and other boreal species. The large return flight of Golden-crowned Kinglets was unexpected after so warm a winter.

Weather did not play an obvious role in reduced populations for some other species. In addition to the poor warbler flights noted above, numbers were disturbingly weak for both species of Cuckoos, Red-headed Woodpecker, Sedge Wren, and thrushes as a group (especially Swainson's).

As of this writing, reports of 18 species of exceptional rarities have not yet completed IORC review; the relevant data are cited briefly at the end of the main species summa-

As a printing aid, the following abbreviations have been used throughout this report:

EA	=	earliest arrival(s)	Co(s)	=	County (Counties)
MC	=	maximum count(s)	CA	=	Conservation Area
LD	=	latest departure(s)	FP	=	Forest Preserve
SBC	=	Spring Bird Count (6 May 2000)	(S)FWA	=	(State) Fish & Wildlife Area
ad.	=	adult(s)	L	=	Lake
subad.	=	subadult(s)	NWR	=	National Wildlife Refuge
imm.	=	immature(s)	P	=	Park
1st yr/2nd yr	=	first year plumage/second year plumage (similarly, 1st summer, etc.)	R	=	River
			SF	=	State Forest
pr	=	pair(s)	SP	=	State Park
*	=	documented record	Wds	=	Woods
ph.	=	photographed	IORC	=	Illinois Ornithological Records Committee
m.ob.	=	many observers			

Arcola	= Arcola (Douglas Co)	La Rue-Pine Hls	= La Rue-Pine Hills Ecological Area (Union Co)
AtwdRdg	= Atwood Ridge (Union Co)	La Salle L	= La Salle Lake (La Salle Co)
Carl. L	= Carlyle Lake (Clinton Co if unspecified)	LCal	= Lake Calumet area (southern Cook Co)
Carp.P	= Carpenter Park, north of Springfield (Sangamon Co)	Linc.P	= Lincoln Park, Chicago (Cook Co)
Chau	= Chautauqua NWR (Mason Co)	LShel	= Lake Shelbyville (Shelby Co if unspecified)
Chi	= Chicago (Cook Co)	Mermet L	= Mermet Lake Conservation Area (Massac Co)
Clin.L	= Clinton Lake (DeWitt Co)	Montrose	= Montrose Harbor area, Chicago (Cook Co)
CypCrk	= Cypress Creek NWR (Pulaski Co)	OakwdBtms	= Oakwood Bottoms (Jackson Co)
Deer G East/West	= Deer Grove East/West FP, Palatine (Cook Co)	Palos	= Palos area (southwestern Cook Co)
		Pomona	= Pomona (Jackson Co)
Del Monte ponds	= Del Monte ponds, Mendota (La Salle Co)	Pr.Rdg	= Prairie Ridge State Natural Area (Jasper Co if unspecified)
Evanston	= Evanston (Cook Co)		
Fermi	= Fermilab National Accelerator Laboratory (Du Page Co)	Rend L	= Rend Lake (Jefferson Co if unspecified)
		Rock Cut SP	= Rock Cut State Park (Winnebago Co)
Goose L Pr.	= Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area (Grundy Co)	Rockford	= Rockford (Winnebago Co)
		Sang.L	= Sangchris Lake State Park (Sangamon Co)
GrantP	= Grant Park, Chicago (Cook Co)	Sgmn Co	= Sangamon Co
GrdnPr.	= Garden Prairie slough (Boone Co)	Shab.L	= Shabbona Lake State Recreation Area (De Kalb Co)
GrtLakes	= Great Lakes Naval Training Center (Lake Co)		
		(L)Spfld	= (Lake) Springfield (Sangamon Co)
Heyworth	= Heyworth area (McLean Co)	Urbana	= Urbana (Champaign Co)
HL	= Horseshoe Lake (Madison Co)	Wash.P	= Washington Park, Springfield (Sangamon Co)
IBSP	= Illinois Beach State Park (Lake Co)	Wauk	= Waukegan (Lake Co)
IL	= Illinois	Wbgo (Co)	= Winnebago (Co)
JP	= Jackson Park, Chicago (Cook Co)	Wilmette	= Wilmette (Cook Co)

Transparent directionals such as e = east(ern), ne = northeast(ern), sc = south-central, etc., are used where relevant. When information on counts greater than one, on sexes, and/or on ages of birds observed is available, it is generally included in parentheses after the date of the record. No number signifies single birds. Headings for species requiring IORC review appear in **CAPITALIZED, UNDERLINED, AND BOLDFACED** fonts; records that are still under review are noted at the end of this report. Noteworthy dates and sites of occurrence and remarkably high counts for the state as a whole or for particular regions of the state are **underlined and boldfaced**, and some further editorial remarks are **boldfaced**.

The 1996 DeLorme *Illinois Atlas & Gazetteer* has been used as a standard for spelling of most place names. Remarks on the import of records are informed largely by Bohlen's 1989 *Birds of Illinois* and the subsequently published Illinois journals.

ries. Regardless of IORC's decisions on the individual documentations, this year's roster of "ultra- rarities" proved less impressive than in most springs. Half the species under review have shown nearly annual occurrences in recent years, and no first state records were submitted. Moreover, the season's rarest birds were—without exception—uncooperative. Ten species were noted one day only, and six of these were single-observer records. In short, extremely few birders enjoyed the excitement of witnessing great rarities this spring.

The foundation of this summary is the detailed information on migration limits and populations as submitted directly to the compiler (or indirectly via the Illinois Department of Conservation) by field observers across the state. Information not submitted is not included. For example, reports communicated to local coordinators of taped bird-alerts, reports posted on e-mail, and reports transmitted by word of mouth to another observer are generally wanting here.

Migration limits and maximum counts are provided, where available, from each of the three subsections of Illinois—North, Central and South—as mapped out in Bohlen's (1978) *Annotated Check-list of the Birds of Illinois*. Additional data are sometimes noted for species and areas of special interest.

Our sincere thanks are extended to the following observers, who supplied all the data for the summary. These observers are credited by their initials following each record; disambiguating citation forms are indicated where needed. As in previous reports, the sequencing of observers below is based on alphabetization of last and first initials or citation forms rather than on alphabetization of last names: Alan Anderson, Cindy Alberico, Jack Armstrong, Kim Ainis, Bill A. Bertrand, Dale Birkenholz, Frank Bennett, H. David Bohlen, John Bates, Michael Bower, Michael J. Baum, Steven Bailey, Todd E. Bugg, Richard & Sigurd Bjorklund (R&SBj), Brian L. Chandler, Elizabeth Chato, Karin Cassel, Paul Clyne, Robert Chapel, Scott Carpenter, Spring Bird Count, Beckie Dyer, Danny Díaz, Glyn Dawson, Sheryl De Vore, Tim Dever, Joshua Engel, Robert Erickson, Carolyn S. Fields, Charles Friedel, Jim Frazier, Karen Forcum, Matthew Fraker, Rick Frissora, Sue Friscia, Alice Gregory, Joel Greenberg, Frank Holmes, Jim Hampson, Leroy Harrison, Larry L. Hood, Matthew Hopkins, Mary Ann Hoeffliger, Nikolas K. Haass, Ralph Hopper, Robert D. Hughes, Scott Hickman, David B. Johnson, Dorothy J. Jackson, Dan Kassebaum, Eric Kershner, Tim Kiessel, Vernon Kleen, Greg Lambeth, James Landing, Charlene Malone, Ed Mooney, John McDaniel, Keith McMullen, Luis Muñoz, Richard D. Messenger, Thomas Metcalf, Thomas U. May, Walter Marcisz, Cynthia & John McKee (C&JMc), Carlyn Morenus (CMs), Dennis Oehmke, Ed O'Brien, Dale Pontius, Joann Pearson, John H. Purcell, James J. Phillips, Roy Peterson, Thomas Pucelik, Adam Reyburn, Harriet Rylaarsdam, Jennette Rader, Michael Retter, Phil Reyburn, William C. Rowe, Albert Seppi, Alan F. Stokie, Douglas F. Stotz, Darrell J. Shambaugh, Illinois Ornithological Society field trips (IOS), James O. Smith, Jeffrey R. Sanders, Michael Sherer, Thomas Schulenberg, Wesley Serafin, Ken Thompson, Ken Vail, Bernie Wiltshire, David E. Willard, Daniel T. Williams, Eric Walters, Geoffrey Williamson, Jeffrey Walk, and Kenneth Wysocki.

American White Pelicans. 12 March, 2000. Lake Sangchris, Sangamon Co. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

2000 Spring Migration Field Notes

Red-throated Loon
EA: 25-26 Mar, Carl.L (KM, DK et al.); 26 Mar (winter plumage), LSpfld (HDB); 8 Apr (basic plumage—imm.?), Grays L, Grayslake (Lake Co) (*DBJ, JG, SD). **LD**: 5 May, LSpfld (HDB). One additional: 10-12 Apr (ad., spring plumage), LSpfld (HDB).

Common Loon
EA: **19 Feb**, Rend L (Co?) (KM, FB); 11 Mar, LSpfld (HDB); 17 Mar, Gages L (Lake Co) (SH); 20 Mar, Rock Cut SP (DTW). **MC**: 12, Sgmn Co, 24 Mar (HDB); 11, JP, 23 Apr (KC); 7, Clin.L, 1 Apr (RC); 5, Mermet L, 23 Mar (KM). **LD**: 20 May, IBSP (JE, KM, GW); 14-20 May, Rockford (DTW); 16 May (imm.), Sang.L (HDB); 26 Apr, East Fork L (Richland Co) (KM).

Pied-billed Grebe
EA: 17 Feb, Chau (R&SBj); 26 Feb (2), JP (PC, SC); 27 Feb, Rock Cut SP (DTW); 27 Feb, Champaign (Champaign Co) (RC); 28 Feb (5), White Oak L, Bloomington (McLean Co) (MR). **MC**: **250**, LSpfld, 28 Feb (MR); **96**, Shab.L, 21 Apr (DJS); **75**, Mermet L, 29 Mar (KM); **75**, LCal, 21 Apr (DFS); **73**, Sgmn Co, 1 Apr (HDB). **LD**: 29 May, JP (PC); 19 May, Knight's Pond (Sgmn Co) (HDB). **Record spring high counts**; the previous spring high count is 67 birds (at Spfld, 7 Apr 1996).

Horned Grebe
EA: 20 Feb, Clin.L (RC); 24 Feb, Spoon L (Knox Co) (MJB); 25 Feb, JP (SC). **MC**: 61, Sgmn Co, 21 Mar (HDB); 37, GrantP, 23 Mar (DFS); 18, Mermet L, 23 Mar (KM). **LD**: 26 Apr, JP (SC, PC); 19 Apr, LSpfld (HDB); 7 Apr (18), Crab Orchard NWR (Williamson Co) (KM).

Red-necked Grebe
EA: 20 Feb, Clin.L (*RC); 1 Mar, Rock Cut SP (DTW). **MC**: 2, La Salle L, 5 Mar (C&JMc). **LD**: 23 Mar, JP (*KC). No other reports.

Eared Grebe
EA: 18 Mar, LShel (Co?) (RC); 19 Mar, East Fork L (Richland Co) (LH). **MC**: 3, LShel, 13 Apr (KF); 2, Newton L (Jasper Co), 1 Apr (GW); 2, East Fork L (Richland Co), 12 Apr (LH). **LD**: 29 Apr (breeding plumage), Berlin SP (Sgmn Co) (HDB); 22-24 Apr, Carlyle Sewage Treatment Plant (Clinton Co) (DK, KM); 15-16 Apr (ad.), Newton L (Jasper Co) (LH, VK et al.). No other reports.

Western Grebe
One report: **22-24 May** (2), LSpfld (HDB, BD)—**record IL late date** by two days.

American White Pelican
EA: **20 Feb** (number?), Carl.L (Fayette Co) (DK); 21 Feb (350), HL (KM); **25 Feb**, Chau (R&SBj); 29 Feb, Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co) (JH). **MC**: **4525**, Senachwine L/Goose L (Putnam Co), 25 Mar (C&JMc)—**record IL high count**; 1444, Chau, 13 Apr (R&SBj). **LD**: 5 Jun (3), Carl.L (Fayette Co); 28-31 May (10), Bakers L, Barrington (Cook Co) (CSF)—the only high count from e IL; 22 Apr (3), L Vermilion (Vermilion Co) (JOS, EC, IOS). **Record early arrival dates**. Numerous reports of 500+, nc through sw counties, 12 Mar - 2 Apr.

Double-crested Cormorant
EA: **5 Mar**, Bakers L, Barrington (Cook Co) (CSF); **5 Mar**, Chau (LLH); 5 Mar (9), Carl.L (Fayette Co) (DK). **MC**: 2520, Chau & Clear L (Mason Co), 30 Mar (R&SBj); 1800, Carl.L (Co?), 13 May (KM, DK, FB); 1385 (roost), quarry at Riverdale (Cook Co), 16 Apr (WM). **LD** (non-summering birds): 27 May (2), GrtLakes (EW).

American Bittern
EA: 23 Mar, OakwdBtms (KM); 21 Apr, s of Lincoln Memorial Garden, LSpfld (HDB); 26 Apr, Afton FP (De Kalb Co) (DJS); 29 Apr, Indian Ridge Marsh, LCal (WM). **MC**: 7, OakwdBtms, 9 Apr (KM) and 23 Apr (C&JMc); 3, JP, 1 May (SC et al.). **LD**: 7 May, JP (KC, WS); 6 May (2), Mermet L (FB).

Least Bittern
EA: 27 Apr (male), Mermet L (FB); 6 May, w of Rockton (Wbgo Co) (DTW); 19 May, Des Plaines R Wetlands Demonstration Project (Lake Co) (RC). **MC**: 5 (3 males, 2 females), Massac Co, 6 May (FB); 5, Pulaski Co, 13 May (KM, FB, DK); 4, Pr.Rdg, 26 May (LH). **LD**: **10 Jun**, JP (KC); 26-27 May, Linc.P (JHP fide EW).

Great Blue Heron
EA: 27 Feb (3), Bakers L, Barrington (Cook Co) (CSF); 28 Feb (3), se of LSpfld (HDB); 1 Mar, Rockford (DTW). **MC**: 309, Clear L (Mason Co), 18 May (R&SBj); 113, Chau, 11 May (R&SBj); 73 (new colony), Monroe Co, 6 May (TUM); 65, Union Co, 22 Apr (KM); 71, Bakers L, Barrington (Cook Co), 6 May (GW).

Great Egret
EA: 15 Mar (4), St. Clair Co (KM); 17 Mar, Bakers L, Barrington (Cook Co) (CSF); 28 Mar, LSpfld (HDB). **MC**: 183 (roost), LCal, 6 May (WM, MH); 50, Carl.L (Fayette Co), 5 Jun (KM, DK); 21, Sgmn Co, 23 May (HDB). **LD**: 8 Jun, JP (KC); into Jun, Sgmn Co (HDB).

Snowy Egret
EA: 4 Apr, Sauget (St. Clair Co) (KM); 17 Apr, HL (FH); 30 Apr (ad.), Marine Point, LSpfld (HDB); 6 May, Indian Ridge Marsh, LCal (*WM). **MC**: 4, Carl.L, 6 May (DK, KM). **LD**: 28 May, Bakers L, Barrington (Cook Co) (CSF); 27 May, LSpfld (HDB); 22 May, Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co) (JH).

Little Blue Heron
EA: 24 Mar, HL (FH); 27 Apr (ad.), L Wildwood Haven (McDonough Co) (LLH); 30 Apr (3 ad.), Hyde L Wetland, LCal (WM). **MC**: 31, St. Clair Co, 27 Mar (KM); 12, Carl.L, 6 May (DK); 6 (ad.), Burnham Prairie, LCal, 13 May (WM). **LD**: 17 May (imm.), Marine Point, LSpfld (HDB); 14 May (2), Burham Prairie, LCal (AA); 8 May, Pr.Rdg (JW, EK).

Cattle Egret
EA: 26 Mar, HL (FH); 11 Apr, Champaign (Champaign Co) (m.ob., RC); 6 May, JP (PC). **MC**: 22, borrow pit near HL, 25 Mar (WCR); 14, St. Clair Co, 27 Mar (KM). **LD**: 31 May (ad., breeding plumage), Sgmn Co (HDB).

Green Heron
EA: 9 Apr, Urbana (RC et al.); 13 Apr, La Rue-Pine Hls (KM); 13 Apr, Mermet L (FB); 14 Apr, JP (PC); 15 Apr, Rock Cut SP (DTW, AFS). **MC**: 13, JP, 1 May (PC, KC) & 4 May (PC); 13, LCal, 6 May (WM); 7, Pulaski Co, 22 Apr (KM); 5, Jake Wolf Memorial Fish Hatchery (Mason Co), 18 May (R&SBj). **LD**: 26 May (4), Evanston (EW); 22 May (7), JP (PC).

Black-crowned Night-Heron
EA: **12 Mar** (ad.), JP (PC); 25 Mar (2), Indian Ridge Marsh, LCal (WM); 27 Mar (24), HL (KM); 20 Apr (ad.), Woodside Bridge, Spfld (HDB). **MC**: 559, Indian Ridge Marsh, LCal, 6 May (WM, TVB); 46, JP, 19 Apr (PC) & 22 Apr (KC); 18, Bakers L, Barrington (Cook Co), 6 May (GW). **LD**: 21 May (ad.), Arcola (RC); 20 May (imm.), s end of LSpfld (HDB); 17 May, Salt Fork R (Vermilion Co) (JOS). Very poorly represented away from Cook Co; only one at Mason Co all spring (R&SBj).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron
EA: **22 Mar** (ad.), Lick Creek (Sgmn Co) (HDB)—**record early for county and the first March record north of s IL**; **23 Mar**, Granite City (Madison Co) (FH); 19 Apr (ad.), Carp.P (HDB); 26 Apr, Batavia (Kane Co) (DJS). **MC**: 8, Carl.L (Fayette Co), 22 Apr (DK); 8, Mermet L, 4 May (FB et al.); 8, Carl.L (Fayette Co), 5 Jun (KM, DK). **LD**: 11-13 Jun (ad.), JP (PC, KC); 21 May (ad.), Arcola (RC).

WHITE-FACED IBIS:
A breeding-plumaged ad. on 29 Apr, (Wbgo Co) (DW), first Wbgo Co record. 18 previously accepted IL records.

Black Vulture
MC: 12, Johnson Co, 8 Apr (KM).

Turkey Vulture
EA: 24 Feb, Richland Co (LH); 28 Feb, Sgmn Co (HDB); 4 Mar, Du Page Co (GW). **MC**: 57, Sgmn Co, 4 Apr (HDB); 25, Clear L (Mason Co), 30 Mar (R&SBj); 24, Union Co, 22 Apr (KM). **LD**: 14 May, JP (PC, KC); 13-14 May, Wilmette (EW, m.ob.). **Other**: 22 Mar (wing-tagged ad.: rectangular orange tag on left wing numbered '237' in black), Marine Point, LSpfld (HDB).

Greater White-fronted Goose
EA: 22 Feb, Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co) (JH); 22 Feb (9), Spoon L (Knox Co) (MJB). **MC**: **2500**, Anderson L SFWA (Fulton Co), 8 Mar (KV)—**more than twice the previous IL high count**; 2000+, same site, 11 Mar (RC); 525, Chau, 16 Mar (R&SBj); 153, Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co), 22 Mar (JH); 50, HL, 10 Mar (FH). **LD**: 10 May, s end of LSpfld (HDB); 23 Apr, Skokie Lagoons, Glencoe/Winnetka (Cook Co) (AFS); 29 Mar (2), CypCrk (KM).

Snow Goose
EA: 9 Feb (85), Sang.L (HDB); 23 Feb, Chi (RC, m.ob.); 27 Feb, Wbgo Co (DTW). **MC**: 9000, Sgmn Co, 11 Feb (HDB); 2000+, Anderson L (Fulton Co), 11 Mar (RC); 1000, Carl.L, 5 Mar (DK); 850, Spoon L (Knox Co), 22 Feb (MJB). **LD**: 6-11 May (white morph), s of Victoria (Knox Co) (MJB, PR); 8 May (2 blue morph), Newton L (Jasper Co) (JW, EK); 6 May (blue morph), w of Rockton (Wbgo Co) (DTW). Injured birds with limited ability to fly remained to end of season: 5 Jun (12), Carl.L (Fayette Co) (KM, DK); through May, LSpfld & Sang.L (HDB).

Ross's Goose
EA: 10 Feb, Sgmn Co (HDB); 28 Feb (2), near Shirland (Wbgo Co) (DTW). **MC**: **42**, Carl.L (Fayette Co), 19 Mar (DK)—**record IL high count** (previous maxima to 13 birds); 12, Sang.L, 9 Mar (HDB); 9, Buckhart (Sgmn Co), 19 Mar (HDB); 6, Anderson L (Fulton Co), 11 Mar (RC). **LD**: 26 Apr (ad.), LSpfld (HDB); 7-15 Apr (1st spring), Evergreen L (McLean Co) (MR, EO); 29 Mar (4 ad.), waste ponds n of Aledo (Mercer Co) (*BAB); 23 Mar, CypCrk (KM). **Others**: 12 Mar, La Salle L (C&JMc); 16 Mar, Anderson L SFWA (Fulton Co) (KV); 2 Apr (dead, too decomposed to salvage), Sang.L (HDB).

Canada Goose
EA: 21 Feb, JP (PC). **MC**: 1200, Johnson Sauk Trail SP (Henry Co), 21 Feb (DJS); 822, JP, 23 Feb (PC, KC); 344, Chau, 9 Mar (R&SBj). **LD**: 9 Apr (small race), LSpfld (HDB). Migration largely over by end of Feb.

Mute Swan
MC: 19, Wolf L, LCal, 4 May (DFS); 14, Antioch L (Lake Co), 1 Apr (DFS); 8, LSpfld, 29 May (HDB).

Tundra Swan
EA: 8 Mar (3), Eggers Wds, LCal (DFS); 18 Mar (imm.), Berlin P (Sgmn Co) (HDB); 22 Mar, Havana (Mason Co) (KV). **MC**: 5, Deer L, Antioch (Lake Co), 19 Mar (CSF). **LD**: 29 Apr (imm.), Berlin P (Sgmn Co) (HDB).

Wood Duck
EA: 21 Feb (pr), JP (PC); 27 Feb (19), Wbgo Co (DTW); 4 Mar, Kaskaskia R (Shelby Co) (KF). **MC**: 167, Chau, 9 Mar (R&SBj); 92, Sgmn Co, 27 May (HDB); 65 (northbound flight), Wauk, 18 May (EW, JE); 50, Carl.L, 19 Mar (DK). **LD**: 14 May (pr), Evanston (EW). **Hybrid Wood Duck x Mallard** (?): 25 Apr (female), Wash.P (HDB, DO:ph.).

Gadwall
EA: 21 Feb (2), Johnson Sauk Trail SP (Henry Co) (DJS); 28 Feb (2), Heyworth (MR). **MC**: 679, Chau, 9 Mar (R&SBj); 550, CypCrk, 2 Apr (KM); 350, Clin.L, 1 Apr (RC); 130, Hennepin (Putnam Co), 11 Apr (DFS). **LD**: 5 Jun (2), Carl.L (Fayette Co) (KM, DK); 31 May (2—male, female), Sang.L (HDB); 6 May (2), Pecatonica (Wbgo Co) (DTW).

American Wigeon
EA: 10 Feb (35), Sgmn Co (HDB); 28 Feb (5), Heyworth (MR); 23 Feb (4), JP (PC); 27 Feb (14), Wbgo Co (DTW). **MC**: 432, Chau, 16 Mar (R&SBj); 300, Pulaski Co, 23 Mar (KM); 60, Lake Co, 18 Mar (DJS). **LD**: 5 Jun, Carl.L (Fayette Co) (KM, DK); 19 May (male), s end of LSpfld (HDB); 13 May (2), LCal (GW). **Leucistic**: 19 Mar (male with white head except patch around eye), Sgmn Co (HDB). See Eurasian Wigeon (Review Pending) for hybrid.

EURASIAN WIGEON
A male on 17-18 Mar, Chain-O-Lakes SP (Lake Co). There are 25 previous spring records for IL.

American Black Duck
EA: 8 Mar, Adams Co (KV). **MC**: 130, Chau, 9 Mar (R&SBj); 10, Carl.L, 19 Mar (DK); 4, Big Bend L FP, Des Plaines (Cook Co), 9 Apr (AA). **LD**: 30-31 May (female), Sang.L (HDB); 18 May (female), Wauk (EW); 8 Apr (2), CypCrk (KM). **Other**: 3 May into Jun (paired with male Mallard), Wilmette (EW, m.ob.).

Mallard
MC: 15,359, Chau, 9 Mar (R&SBj); 330, Sgmn Co, 9 Mar (HDB); 200, Sauget (St. Clair Co), 27 Mar (KM). **LD**: 28 Mar (last apparent migrants), Sgmn Co (HDB). **Others**: Overabundance of males at Wash.P resulted in gang-rape, leading to death, of some females (HDB). See Wood Duck for hybrid.

Blue-winged Teal
EA: 28 Feb (male), Rochester SP (Sgmn Co) (HDB); 4 Mar (5), Carl.L (DK); 7 Mar (2 males), JP (PC, KC). **MC**: 872, Chau, 6 Apr (R&SBj); 400, Carl.L, 19 Mar (DK); 310, Sgmn Co, 20 Apr (HDB); 62, JP, 20 Apr (KC). **LD**: 16 Jun, Evanston (JE); into Jun, Sgmn Co (HDB); 18 May, HL (FH). **Hybrid Blue-winged x Cinnamon Teal**: 23 Apr - 13 May, Carl.L (DK, KM, FB).

Cinnamon Teal
Three records, all males: **EA**: 16 Mar, s end of LSpfld (HDB) see photo; 17-18 Mar, Okaw Bluff/Sullivan Wetland area, LShel (Moultrie Co) (KF, RC). **LD**: 14-15 Apr, Mermet L (DK, FB). See Blue-winged Teal for hybrid.

Northern Shoveler
EA: 22 Feb (2), Fermi (DJS); 25 Feb (13), JP (SC); 27 Feb, Clin.L (RC). **MC**: **4301**, Chau, 6 Apr (R&SBj)—**highest spring count for IL** excluding aerial surveys; 850, Sgmn Co, 6 Apr (HDB); 650, CypCrk, 29 Mar (KM); 350, Senachwine L (Putnam Co), 11 Apr (DFS). **LD**: 4 Jun (pr), Del Monte ponds (JH); 1 Jun (male), JP (PC); 31 May (male), s end of LSpfld (HDB); 27 May (male), Carl.L (Fayette Co) (DK).

Northern Pintail
EA: 5 Feb (increase), Sgmn Co (HDB); 19 Feb (male), Wilmette (fide EW); 20 Feb (10), Oswego (Kendall Co) (DFS). **MC**: 1135, Chau, 2 Mar (R&SBj); 25, CypCrk, 13 Mar (KM). **LD**: 17 May (male), Carl.L (DK); 13 May (male), Sang.L, but reduced numbers there beginning 10 Apr (HDB); 9 Apr (4), Wilkinson-Renwick Marsh (De Kalb Co) (DJS); 9 Apr, Durand (Wbgo Co) (DTW).

Green-winged Teal
EA: 5 Feb (5), Sgmn Co (HDB); 9 Feb (18), LShel (KF); 27 Feb (6), Wbgo Co (DTW). **MC**: 2236, Chau, 24 Mar (R&SBj); 2000+, LShel (Co?), 18 Mar (RC); 1500, Carl.L, 19 Mar (DK); 528, Split Rock L (La Salle Co), 9 Mar (JH). **LD**: 29 May (2 males), GrdnPr. (DTW, DJS); 27 May (male), Carl.L (Fayette Co) (DK); 10 May (3), Sang.L, but male and female lingering there to end of season (HDB).

Canvasback
EA: 21 Jan (increase), Sgmn Co (HDB); 27 Feb (24), Rock Cut SP (DTW). **MC**: 295, Chau & Clear L (Mason Co), 16 Mar (R&SBj); 100, Jersey Co, 13 Feb (KM); 21, Shab.L, 27 Feb (DJS). **LD**: 30 Apr (male), Knight's Pond (Sgmn Co), but reduced numbers there beginning 22 Mar (HDB); 29 Apr, Mermet L (KM et al.).

Redhead
EA: 1 Feb (5), Sgmn Co (HDB); 21 Feb (5), Johnson Sauk Trail SP (Henry Co) (DJS); 27 Feb (5), Wbgo Co (DTW); 27 Feb (male), Wilmette (EW). **MC**: 120, McCullom L (McHenry Co), 19 Mar (DFS); 100+, Anderson L (Fulton Co), 11 Mar (RC); 90, Sgmn Co, 16 Mar (HDB); 56, HL, 15 Mar (KM). **LD**: 29 Apr, CypCrk (KM et al.); 18 Apr (male), LSpfld (HDB).

Ring-necked Duck
EA: 22 Jan (6), Sgmn Co (HDB); 23 Feb (5), JP (PC). **MC**: 2000, HL, 5 Mar (FH); 1000+, Anderson L (Fulton Co), 11 Mar (RC); 1000+, LShel (Co?), 18 Mar (RC); 65, Minkler Road Quarries (Kendall Co), 7 Mar (DJS). **LD**: 16 May (2), Minkler Road Quarries (Kendall Co) (DJS); 9 May, Crab Orchard NWR (Williamson Co) (KM); 30 Apr (3), LSpfld, but stragglers into Jun at Sgmn Co (HDB).

Greater Scaup
EA: 20 Feb, Clin.L (RC); 21 Feb (15), JP (PC, KC); 14 Mar (3), Evergreen L (McLean Co) (MR). **MC**: 65, JP, 23 Feb (KC); 15-20, Heyworth, 5 Apr (MR). **LD**: 20 May (4), Wauk (EW, m.ob.); 9 May (male), Moraine View SP (McLean Co) (MR, TEB); 22 Apr (2), CypCrk (KM).

Lesser Scaup
EA: 10 Feb (25), Sgmn Co (HDB); 22 Feb (3), JP (PC). **MC**: 1000, Shab.L, 31 Mar (DJS); 536, Chau, 6 Apr (R&SBj); 510, Sgmn Co, 1 Mar (HDB). **LD**: 1 Jun (female), Somonauk (De Kalb Co) (DJS); 30 May (male), Wauk (RP); 23 May (male), LSpfld, but decreases there beginning 24 Apr (HDB); 13 May, CypCrk (KM, DK, FB).

Harlequin Duck
One individual: 11 Mar - 9 Apr (female), Wauk (JM, SH, AFS).

Surf Scoter
EA: 26 Mar (3), Rainbow Beach, Chi (AFS). **LD**: 21-26 Apr (1st spring male), Heyworth (MR, TP); 21-26 Apr (female), Mermet L (FB, KM et al.); 2-13 Apr (1st yr male), Mel Price Lock & Dam (Madison Co) (KT, FH;ph., KM) see photo; 11 Apr (2 pr), Busse L (Cook Co) (*JJP). No other reports.

White-winged Scoter
EA: 27 Feb (male), JP (KC)—the only report.

Cinnamon Teal saddling up to Blue-winged Teal. 16 March 2000. Lake Springfield, Sangamon Co. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Black Scoter
Only two reports: 3-13 Apr (female), Mel Price Lock & Dam (Madison Co) (CM, FH:ph., KM) see photo; 8 Apr, Clin.L (RC).

Long-tailed Duck (Oldsquaw)
EA: 20 Feb, Clin.L (RC). **LD**: 27 Mar, Depue L (Bureau Co) (DFS); 11 Mar (male), Mississippi R at Nauvoo (Hancock Co) (MR). No other reports.

Bufflehead
MC: 109, Chau, 6 Apr (R&SBj); 42, Sgmn Co, 24 Mar (HDB) see photo; 34, Shab.L, 21 Mar (DJS); 27, JP, 26 Mar (PC, KC); 20, Carl.L, 8 Apr (DK). **LD**: 30 Apr (3), Pecatonica (Wbgo Co) (DTW); 28 Apr (male), LSpfld (HDB); 17 Apr, HL (FH).

Common Goldeneye
MC: 2500, Rend L (Co?), 29 Jan (KM, DK, FB); 120, LShel, 3 Feb (KF); 110, Oswego (Kendall Co), 20 Feb (DFS). **LD**: 18 Apr (female), Evanston (JE); 9 Apr, Shab.L (DJS); 23 Mar (3), LSpfld (HDB); 19 Mar, Carl.L (DK).

Hooded Merganser
EA: 28 Feb (8), Rock Cut SP (DTW); 1 Mar (3 males), JP (PC). **MC**: 32, Sgmn Co, 22 Mar (HDB); 12, CypCrk, 13 Mar (KM); 9, JP, 4 Mar (PC). **LD**: 27 May (female), Carl.L (Fayette Co) (DK); 27 May (female), GrdnPr. (DTW); 17 May (2), Salt Fork R at Vermilion Co (JOS).

Common Merganser
EA: 26 Feb (ø-plumage), JP (KC, PC); 27 Feb (15), Rock Cut SP (DTW). **MC**: 215, HL, 16 Feb (KM); 31, Fermi, 21 Apr (GW); 10, Clear L (Mason Co), 2 Mar (R&SBj). **LD**: 3 May (male), Clear L (Mason Co) (R&SBj); 2 May (pr), Carl.L (Fayette Co) (LH); 21 Apr (31), Fermi (GW).

Red-breasted Merganser
EA: 1 Feb (2 males), Sgmn Co (HDB); 15 Feb (6), LShel (KF). **MC**: 820, GrantP, 23 Mar (DFS); 500+, Carl.L, 1 Apr (DK); 254, Depue L & L Rawson (Bureau Co) & Senachwine L (Putnam Co), 2 Apr (DJS); 120, Sgmn Co, 22 Mar (HDB). **LD**: 27 May (male), Evanston (EW); 25 May (female), Woodside Bridge, Spfld (HDB); 20 May (2), Rockford (DTW); 30 Apr (male), Carl.L (DK).

Ruddy Duck
EA: 12 Feb (75), LSpfld (HDB); 15 Feb (30), LShel (KF); 5 Mar (3), Bakers L, Barrington (Cook Co) (CSF). **MC**: 1847, Chau, 6 Apr (R&SBj); 820, Senachwine L (Putnam Co), 11 Apr (DFS); 775, HL, 15 Mar (KM). **LD**: 2 Jun (3), Bakers L, Barrington (Cook Co) (CSF); 2 Jun (pr), Del Monte ponds (JH); 24 May (female), LSpfld, but reduced numbers there on 1 May (HDB); 20 May, Carl.L (DK).

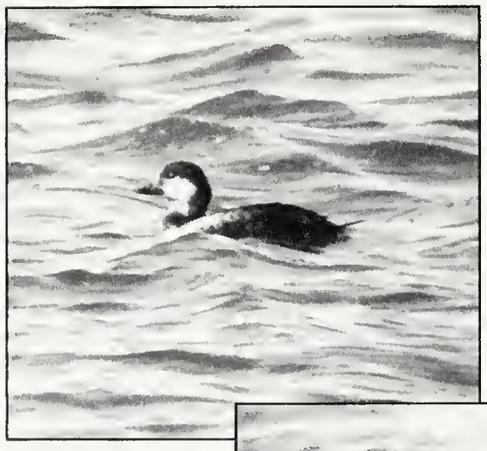
Osprey
EA: 18 Mar, Beck L FP, Des Plaines (Cook Co) (AA)—**record early for n IL**, and third earliest for state; 26 Mar, HL (FH); 29 Mar (2), Joppa (Massac Co) (FB); 31 Mar, JP (PC); 4 Apr, LSpfld (HDB). **MC**: 3, Joppa (Massac Co), 1 May (FB). **LD**: 21 May, Mermet L (FB); 19 May, O'Hare post office ponds, Chi (AA); 18 May, LSpfld (HDB).

Mississippi Kite
EA: 27 Apr, Thebes (Alexander Co) (KM). **Other**: 13 May, Union Co (DK).

Bald Eagle
EA: 21 Feb (imm.), Johnson Sauk Trail SP (Henry Co) (DJS); 28 Feb (19+), Chau (MR); 5 Mar, Adams Co (KV); 11 Mar, Heidecke L (Grundy Co) (CA). **MC**: 20 (imm.), Chau, 2 Mar (R&SBj); 8 (ad.), Chau, 16 Mar (R&SBj); 2 (1st yr), IBSP, 25 Mar (AFS, SH, JM). **LD**: 19 May (imm.), O'Hare post office ponds, Chi (AA); 3 May (ad. & imm.), Sang.L & Lick Creek (Sgmn Co) (HDB); 29 Apr (imm.), I & M Canal (La Salle Co) (DJS); 12 Apr, s Shelby Co (KF); 23 Mar (4), La Rue-Pine Hls (KM).

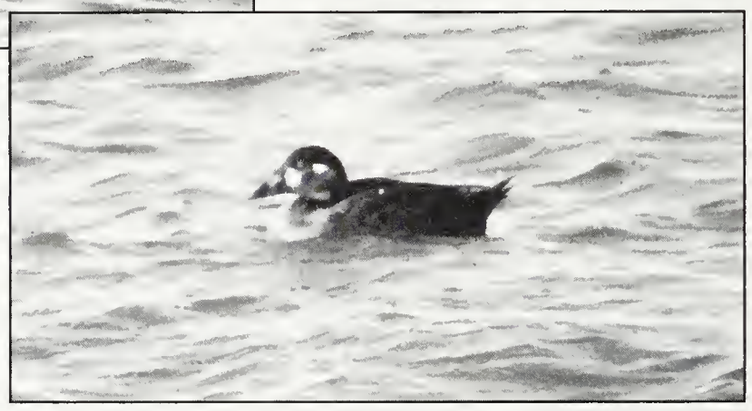
Northern Harrier
EA: 20 Feb, Steward Habitat Area (Lee Co) (DJS); 29 Feb, Railroad Prairie, LCal (WM); 8 Mar, s Shelby Co (KF). **MC**: 23, Pr.Rdg, 21 Mar (JW, EK); 8, IBSP, 25 Mar (JM); 6, Carl.L, 19 Mear (DK); 3, Sgmn Co, 11 Apr (HDB). **LD**: 21 May, IBSP (KM); 20 May (imm.), w of Spfld (HDB); 13 May, Bond Co (KM).

Sharp-shinned Hawk
EA: 23 Feb (imm. female), JP (PC); 9 Mar, Chau (R&SBj). **MC**: 3, LCal, 25 Mar (WM); 3, LCal, 4 May (DFS). **LD**: 15 May, Swallow Cliffs FP, Palos (DFS); 9 May, Union Co (KM); 9 May (male), JP (NKH); 29 Apr, w of Spfld (HDB).



Black Scoter, 13 April 2000. Mel Price Dam, Madison Co. Discovered by Charlene Malone 3 April 2000, and photographed 13 April by Frank Holmes.

Surf Scoter 13 April 2000. Mel Price Dam, Madison Co. Discovered by Ken Thompson 2 April 2000, and photographed 13 April by Frank Holmes.



Cooper's Hawk
EA: 18 Feb (imm. female), Skokie (Cook Co) (EW, m.ob.); 21 Mar, Chi (JL); 6 Apr, Clear L (Mason Co) (R&SBj). **MC**: 5 (3 ad., 2 imm.), Sgmn Co, 12 Apr (HDB); 3, De Kalb Co, 8 Apr (DFS). **LD**: 13 May, Chi (JL); 1 May, s Clinton Co (KM).

Northern Goshawk
LD: 1 Apr (ad.), Carl.L (Fayette Co) (DK)—the only report.

Red-shouldered Hawk
EA: 29 Jan (ad.), Sgmn Co (HDB). **MC**: 6, Jackson Co, 29 Apr (KM); 4, Carl.L, 5 Mar (DK). **LD**: 20 Apr, Humboldt P, Chi (AA); 21 Mar (imm.), LSpfld (HDB). **Others**: 22 Apr, Middle Fork SFWA (Vermilion Co) (SB et al.); 2 (pr), Sugar R FP (Wbgo Co), all season (DTW).

Bufflehead. 15 March 2000. Washington Park, Springfield, IL, Sangamon Co. Photo by Dennis Oelmke.

Broad-winged Hawk
EA: 9 Apr (ad.), Oak R (Sgmn Co) (HDB); 15 Apr, Deer G West (CSF); 16 Apr, Sannauk FP (De Kalb Co) (DJS). **MC**: 200 (flock), Spoon L (Knox Co), 20 Apr (MJB); 8, Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe (Cook Co), 23 Apr (AA); 4, Union Co, 9 Apr (KM). **LD**: 13 May (imm.), Sgmn Co (HDB).

Swainson's Hawk
One report: 1, McHenry Co (0.2 miles w of Kane/McHenry County line), 19 May (KM).

Red-tailed Hawk
MC: 21, Sgmn Co, 1 Apr (HDB); 15, Monroe Co, 18 Mar (KM); 10, Carl.L, 6 May (DK). **LD**: 22 Apr (6—two flocks of 3), Deerfield (Lake Co) & Evanston (EW). Apparently very little migration; none noted at JP. **Others**: **Partial albino**: 13 Mar, Pulaski Co (KM). "**Harlan's Hawk**": 5 Mar, Carl.L (DK); 13 Mar, Pulaski Co (KM); 17 Mar, LSpfld (HDB); 25 Mar (ad.), HL (WCR). "**Krider's Hawk**": 23 Mar, Jackson Co (KM). **Western (rufous) morph**: 4 Mar, Aviston (Clinton Co) (DK). **Western (dark) morph**: 5 Mar, Stephen A. Forbes SP (Marion Co) (DK); 21 Mar, Sgmn Co (HDB).

Osprey. 13 April 2000. Horseshoe Lake, Madison Co. Photo by Frank Holmes.

Rough-legged Hawk
LD: 25 Mar, Piatt Co (RC); 2 Mar, Morgan Co (KV).

Golden Eagle
LD: 23 Apr (ad.), JP (*PC)—first record for site; 4 Mar (imm., overwintered), Lee Co (C&JMc). No other reports submitted.

American Kestrel
EA: 23 Feb (male), JP (PC, KC). **MC**: 14, Evanston, 20 Apr (JE); 13, Sgmn Co, 18 Mar (HDB); 6, Perry Co, 23 Mar (KM).

Merlin
EA: 9 Mar, Montrose (GW); 23 Mar (male), JP (KC); 1 Apr (***richardsonii***), w of Spfld (HDB)—**fourth IL report of this form**; 9 Apr, Urbana (RC). **MC**: 2, Sgmn Co, 20 Apr (HDB). **LD**: **30 May**, Bloomington (McLean Co) (MF)—**record IL late date** (the latest date from previous years is 17 May at two sites in 1998); **18 May**, IBSP (EW, JE); 5 May, Montrose (GW); 30 Apr, East Fork L (Richland Co) (LH). Eight additional reports of singles, 1 Apr - 1 May.

Peregrine Falcon
EA: 5 Mar, Arcola (RC); 25 Mar (2), Wauk (JM); 8 Apr, CypCrk (KM). **LD**: 21 May (ad.), Arcola (RC); 18 May, Pr.Rdg (LH). Few reports assignable to migrants, and only one report indicated a migratory subspecies: 22 Apr (ad., "appeared to be *tundrius*"), Mark Twain NWR (Calhoun Co) (WCR).

Ring-necked Pheasant
MC: 9, Sgmn Co, 26 Mar & 22 Apr (HDB).

Greater Prairie-Chicken
MC: 51 (males), Pr.Rdg, 5 Apr (JW); 12, Pr.Rdg (Marion Co), 25 Mar (MAH); 5, s Effingham Co, 25 Mar (MAH).

Wild Turkey
MC: 14, s Shelby Co, 2 Apr (KF); 9, Sgmn Co, 12 Apr (HDB); 4, Clinton Co, 6 May (KM).

Northern Bobwhite
MC: 11, Sgmn Co, 29 May (HDB); 10, Carl.L, 6 May (DK); 3, Massac Co, 28 Apr (KM).

BLACK RAIL
24-29+ May, Springbrook Prairie FP, Du Page Co (RF, JS and many others). Heard and seen.

Yellow Rail
EA: 15 Apr, Clin.L (RC)—the only report.

King Rail
EA: 21 Apr, Eggers Wds, LCal (DFS); 22 Apr, Pr.Rdg (FB); 29 Apr, Clin.L (RC); 29 Apr, Mermet L (KM). **MC**: 3, Mermet L and CypCrk, 29 Apr (FB et al.); 3, Pulaski Co, 13 May (FB, DK, KM). **LD**: 18 May, Meigs Field, GrantP (TS, m.ob.). **Other**: 16 May, Goose L Pr. (AFS).

Virginia Rail
EA: 25 Mar, OakwdBtms (KM, FB, DK); 7 Apr, Black Tern Marsh, Island L (McHenry Co) (CSF); 22 Apr, LSpfld (HDB); 22 Apr, Arcola (RC). **MC**: 8, OakwdBtms, 29 Mar (KM); 6, Harrisburg area (Saline Co) and OakwdBtms, 29 Apr (FB et al.); 5, Hyde L Wetland, LCal, 30 Apr (WM). **LD**: 6 May, Carl.L (DK); 4 May (3), Pulaski Co (FB et al.).

Sora
EA: 25 Mar, Clin.L (RC); 30 Mar, Pr.Rdg (JW); 21 Apr, Eggers Wds, LCal (DFS). **MC**: 9, far s IL (Saline through Pulaski Cos), 29 Apr (FB et al.); 6, Massac Co, 6 May (FB). **LD**: **6 Jun**, JP (SC); 13 May (4), Pulaski Co (FB, KM, DK); 3 May, Chau (R&SBj); 29 Apr (3), Sang.L (HDB). Worst numbers ever at Sgmn Co (HDB).

Common Moorhen
EA: 15 Apr, Indian Ridge Marsh, LCal (WM); 6 May, Spoon L (Knox Co) (MJB); 11 May, e of Victoria (Knox Co) (MJB); 13 May, Mermet L (KM, DK, FB). **MC**: 6, LCal, 6 May (WM, RH); 4, Eggers Wds, LCal, 17 May (DFS); 4, Black Tern Marsh, Island L (McHenry Co), 23 May (CSF). **LD**: 25 May, GrdnPr. (DTW).

American Coot
EA: 3 Feb (increase to 70), Sgmn Co (HDB); 26 Feb (5 migrants), JP (PC). **MC**: 4497, Chau, 6 Apr (R&SBj); 4000, Spring L SFWA (Tazewell Co), 23 Mar (VK); 3000+, Carl.L, 1 Apr (DK); 2500, HL, 27 Mar (KM); 2500, Senachwine L (Putnam Co), 11 Apr (DFS). **LD**: 17 Jun, JP (KC); 5 Jun (20), Carl.L (Co?) (KM); 10 May (30), Sgmn Co, but stragglers there into Jun (HDB).

Sandhill Crane
EA: **9 Feb**, Carl.L (Co?) (KM); 20 Feb, Urbana (RC) see photo. **MC**: 1965, LCal, 8 Mar (DFS); 12+, Wbgo Co, 15 Apr (DTW); 5, Clin.L, 25 Mar (RC); 2, Pulaski Co, 19 Feb (KM, FB). **LD**: 25 Apr, Vermilion Co near Homer (JOS); 22 Apr (2), Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe (Cook Co) (m.ob. fide AA); 5 Apr, Pr.Rdg (JW, EK).

Black-bellied Plover
EA: **22 Apr**, Carl.L (DK); 29 Apr (10), CypCrk (KM, FB et al.); 4 May (ad.), Lick Creek (Sgmn Co) (HDB); 7 May (2), JP (PC). **MC**: 36, Wauk, 18 May (EW, JE, DBJ); 20, Earlville (La Salle Co), 20 May (DFS); 10, CypCrk, 29 Apr (KM, FB et al.); 4, Sgmn Co, 16 May (HDB). **LD**: 29 May, GrdnPr. (DJS); 27 May, Arcola (RC); 20 May (2), Effingham Co (MAH).

American Golden-Plover
EA: **8 Mar**, Clin.L (RC); 12 Mar, HL (FH); 12 Mar, Randolph Co (*TD); 23 Apr, fields near Somonauk (De Kalb Co) (DJS). **MC**: "**10,000s**," Pr.Rdg, 1 Apr (m.ob. fide JW)—"Wave after wave moving by—unreal numbers" (JW); 3000+, near Pr.Rdg (Marion Co), 14 Apr (MAH); 2400, se Champaign Co, 2 Apr (RC); 2000+, Bellflower (McLean Co), 21 Apr (MR). **LD**: 29 May, GrdnPr. (DTW); 20 May, Earlville (La Salle Co) (DFS); 29 Apr (2), CypCrk (KM, FB et al.); 22 Apr (75+), w of Bushnell (McDonough Co) (LLH).

An immature Sandhill Crane showed up in front of a shopping mall in Champaign County in February 2000. Photos by Robert Chapel.

Semipalmated Plover
EA: 13 Apr, CypCrk (KM); 21 Apr (2), Lick Creek (Sgmn Co) (HDB); 3 May, Del Monte ponds (JH); 6 May, Evanston (EW). **MC**: 135, Arcola, 20 May (GL fide RC); 86, Carl.L, 6 May (KM, DK); 72, Wauk, 18 May (EW, DBJ). **LD**: 4 Jun, n Lee Co (DJS); 3 Jun (4), Arcola (RC); into Jun, Sgmn Co (HDB); 21 May (15), Rend L (DK). **Remarks**: "By far the most I've ever seen in spring." (836 encounters over 33 dates at Sgmn Co—HDB).

Best passage on record at JP (PC).

Piping Plover
EA: 1 May, Sang.L (HDB)—first spring record for Sgmn Co since 1991 (HDB). **LD**: 13 May, Ward Branch, Rend L (*BLC:ph.); 9 May, Arcola (RC). No others reported.

Killdeer
EA: 29 Jan (2), Mermet L (KM); 22 Feb, JP (SC); 28 Feb, Sgmn Co (HDB). **MC**: 100, 15 Apr, 24 Apr, & 30 Apr, Carl.L (DK); 44, Sgmn Co, 5 Mar (HDB). **LD**: 28 May, JP (PC).

Black-necked Stilt
EA: 29 Apr, Pulaski Co (KM, FB et al.). **LD**: 19 May, Nason, Rend L (LH). The only reports.

American Avocet
EA: 22-24 Apr (ad.), Woodside Bridge, Spfld (HDB); 22 Apr (male), Carl.L (DK); 22 Apr, Mark Twain NWR (Calhoun Co) (WCR). **MC/LD**: 4, Marine Point, LSpfld, 17 May (HDB). No other reports.

Greater Yellowlegs
EA: **3 Mar**, Woodside Bridge, Spfld (HDB); **4 Mar** (3), Carl.L (Fayette Co) (DK)—**both record early IL arrivals** (previously 7 Mar); **9 Mar**, Split Rock L (La Salle Co) (JH)—**record early for n IL**; **12 Mar**, Oswego (Kendall Co) (DFS). **MC**: 82, Clear L (Mason Co), 13 Apr (R&SBj); 60, Carl.L (Fayette Co), 8 Apr (DK); 13, Somonauk (De Kalb Co), 24 Apr (DJS). **LD**: 27 May, s end of LSpfld (HDB); 18 May, Wauk (EW, JE); 6 May (2), Carl.L (KM, DK).

Lesser Yellowlegs
EA: **27 Feb**, Clin.L (RC); **29 Feb**, Sgmn Co (HDB); 9 Mar, Split Rock L (La Salle Co) (JH); 12 Mar, Madison Co (FH). **MC**: 245, Sgmn Co, 21 Apr (HDB); 240, Pulaski Co, 16 Apr (KM); 176, Clear L (Mason Co), 13 Apr (R&SBj); 100+, n of Wbgo (Wbgo Co), 29 Apr (DTW). **LD**: 29 May (2), GrdnPr. (DTW); 24 May (3), Woodside Bridge, Spfld (HDB); 20 May, Carl.L (DK).

During the late morning of 27 May 2000, heavy fog rolled in off Lake Michigan and downed this flock of 7 Whimbrels at Great Lakes Naval Training Center in Lake County, Illinois. They stayed for a few hours feeding and resting and waiting for better weather to continue their journey northward. Photo by Eric Walters.

Solitary Sandpiper
EA: **18 Mar**, CypCrk (FB); **22 Mar**, Sauget (St. Clair Co) (KM)—**both record early IL arrival dates** (previous earliest is 23 Mar 1985); 1 Apr, Wadsworth Wetlands Project (Lake Co) (AFS); 9 Apr, Sgmn Co, (HDB). **MC**: 23, Sgmn Co, 27 Apr (HDB); 22, Mermet L, 22 Apr (KM); 19, De Kalb Co, 6 May (DJS); 15, LCal, 6 May (WM). **LD**: 28 May, Oswego (Kendall Co) (DFS); 26 May, Sang.L (HDB); 16 May, Monroe Co (KM).

Willet
EA: 21 Apr (2), Woodside Bridge, Spfld (HDB); 22 Apr (4), Pulaski Co (KM). **MC**: 15, GrtLakes, 29 Apr (SH, JM, AFS); 12, Shab.L, 6 May (DJS). **LD**: 2 Jun, Rockford (DTW); 18 May (2), Wauk (EW, JE); 11-14 May, Heyworth (RF et al., fide MR). A weak migration.

Spotted Sandpiper
EA: 9 Apr, Mermet L (FB); 20 Apr, JP (DJJ et al.); 23 Apr, LShel (Co?) (RC). **MC**: **49**, Chau, 11 May (R&SBj); **43**, Evanston/Wilmette, 6 May (EW); 22, Mahomet (Champaign Co), 6 May (RC, GL); 22, JP, 12 May (PC, SC); 10, Carl.L (Fayette Co), 20 May (DK). **LD**: 2 Jun (2), JP (KA, KC); 20 May (10), GrtLakes (EW).

Upland Sandpiper
EA: **4 Apr**, Pr.Rdg (JW); 17 Apr, s Shelby Co (KF); 21 Apr, Sang.L (HDB); 22-24 Apr, Carl.L (DK, KM); 29 Apr (3), Savoy (Champaign Co) (RC). **MC**: 8, Pr.Rdg, 19 Apr (JW, EK). **LD**: 20 May, Durand (Wbgo Co) (DTW).

Whimbrel
EA: 18 May, Linc.P (RDH et al., fide EW); 18 May, JP (KC). **MC**: 10 (flock), JP, 27 May (KC, PC); 8, GrtLakes, 27 May (EW, DD:ph.). **LD**: 28 May, Rainbow Beach, Chi (PC et al.); 28 May, JP (PC). A strong migration. See Review Pending for inland records.

Hudsonian Godwit
EA: 30 Apr (alternate plumage), Carl.L (Fayette Co) (DK); 6-11 May (2—male, female), Del Monte ponds (JH, C&JMc, DJS); 10 May (2, breeding plumage), w of Victoria (Knox Co) (MJB); 13 May, Clin.L (RC et al.). **MC**: **17** (flocks of 2, 3, 12), Wauk, 18 May (*DBJ, EW, JE)—**record high count for ne IL**; 4, Arcola, 25 May (GL, SB, RC). **LD** (see also Maximum Counts): 17 May (basic plumage), Carl.L (DK).

Marbled Godwit
EA: 1 May (7), Sgmn Co (HDB). **MC**: 9, IBSP, 19 May (*AFS, JRS, RE); 7, Sgmn Co, 1 May (HDB). **LD**: **27 May**, GrtLakes (DD:ph.); 18 May (2), Linc.P (RDH et al., fide EW); 5-6 May, Marine Point, LSpfld (HDB). Among the best spring showings in a decade.

Ruddy Turnstone
EA: 13 May, Carl.L (KM, FB, DK); 13 May, CypCrk (KM, DK, FB); 15 May (5), Evanston (EW); 16 May, Del Monte ponds (JH); 19 May (6), LSpfld (HDB). **MC**: **78**, GrtLakes and Wauk, 18 May (EW, JE); 42, JP, 27 May (KC, PC); **25+**, Nason, Rend L, 19 May (LH); **13**, Somonauk (**De Kalb Co**), 24 May (DJS); 9, GrdnPr., 25 May (DTW); 6, LSpfld, 19 May (HDB). **LD**: 4 Jun (2), Rainbow Beach, Chi (AFS); 4 Jun, JP (KC, JR); 27 May, Carl.L (Fayette Co) (DK, AS); 27 May, Marine Point, LSpfld (HDB). **Excellent numbers**, including the highest counts in 20 years at L Michigan, and among the strongest showings ever at inland locations.

Red Knot
EA/MC: **36**, Wauk, 18 May (*DBJ, EW, JE)—**third highest IL count on record**; **15** (flock), 23 May, cinder flats at **LSpfld** (HDB)—**highest inland count for IL**, where previous maxima do not exceed 6 birds. **LD**: 19 May, Wauk (AFS). No other reports.

Sanderling
EA: 29 Apr, GrtLakes (JM, AFS); 10 May (5), Sang.L (HDB). **MC**: **125+**, Linc.P, 18 May (TVB); **89**, Evanston, 28 May (EW); **76**, Wauk, 18 May (EW, JE)—**preceding counts all exceed previous record spring high counts of 65 birds**; **55**, IBSP, 19 May (AFS). **LD**: 1 Jun (9), JP (PC); 27 May, LSpfld (HDB); 27 May, Rockford (DTW); 21 May, Rend L (DK). An excellent passage.

Semipalmated Sandpiper
EA: 1 May, Heyworth (MR); 1 May (2), Sang.L (HDB); 1 May (8), LShel (KF); 4 May (2), Union Co (FB et al.); 6 May, n of Wbgo (Wbgo Co) (DTW); 6 May (6), LCal (WM). **MC**: **340**, Arcola, 28 May (RC); 157, Sgmn Co, 23 May (HDB); 108, JP, 28 May (PC); 100, Monroe Co, 16 May (KM). **LD**: Into Jun, c through n IL; 5 Jun (9), Carl.L (Co?) (KM, DK). Good numbers statewide.

Western Sandpiper
EA: 8 May, Sgmn Co (HDB); 14 May (2), GrdnPr. (DTW). **MC**: 5, Shaw's Wetland n of Wataga (Knox Co), 10 May (MJB); 5, s end of LSpfld, 30 May (HDB). **LD**: 3 Jun, Arcola (RC); 21 May (2), LCal sewage ponds (AFS).

Least Sandpiper
EA: **18 Mar**, Arcola (*RC)—**record early IL arrival by seven days**; **25 Mar** (3), CypCrk (FB, KM, DK)—**ties for second earliest IL arrival**; 1 Apr (2), Lick Creek (Sgmn Co) (HDB); 8 Apr (6), Carl.L (DK); 4 May (2), JP (PC, SC). **MC**: **400**, Arcola, 13 May (RC, GL, EC); **280**, Sgmn Co, 10 May (HDB)—**second and third highest IL spring counts**; 150, Evergreen L (McLean Co), 6 May (MR); 130+, n of Wbgo (Wbgo Co), 6 May (DTW); 130, Carl.L, 6 May (DK, KM). **LD**: 31 May, Del Monte ponds (JH); 24 May (2), Woodside Bridge, Spfld (HDB); 21 May (15), Rend L (DK). Strong migration statewide.

White-rumped Sandpiper
EA: 1 May, Heyworth (MR); 2 May (2), Arcola (RC); 6 May (2), n of Wbgo (Wbgo Co) (DTW)—third earliest arrival for n IL; 6 May (3), Carl.L (KM, DK); 6 May, Madison Co (FH); 12 May (2), JP (PC, SC). **MC**: 35, Arcola, 20 May (GL fide RC); 30, Carl.L, 20 May (DK); 6, Mendota (La Salle Co), 20 May (DFS); 6, GrdnPr., 21 May (DTW). **LD**: 3 Jun, GrtLakes (AFS, DTW); into Jun, Sgmn Co (HDB); 21 May (15), Rend L (DK). Well reported statewide.

Baird's Sandpiper
EA: 21 Apr (3), Lick Creek (Sgmn Co) (HDB); 2 May (3), Arcola (RC).

MC: 6, Ridott (Stephenson Co), 22 May (DTW). **LD**: 28 May, Sang.L (HDB).

Pectoral Sandpiper
EA: **7 Mar**, Del Monte ponds (JH)—**ties 1992 for record early arrival in n IL**; 8 Mar (2), Heyworth (MR); 8 Mar (18), Clin.L (RC); 8 Mar (2), Sang.L (HDB); **12 Mar**, Oswego (Kendall Co) (DFS)—third earliest for n IL; 12 Mar, Madison Co (FH). **MC**: "**10,000s**," Pr.Rdg, 1 Apr (m.ob. fide JW)—"unreal numbers of birds" (JW); **2500+**, near Pr.Rdg (Marion Co), 25 Mar (MAH); **2150**, Pulaski Co, 20 Apr (KM); 800, Clin.L, 1 Apr (RC); 445, Sgmn Co, 21 Apr (HDB); 100+, n of Wbgo (Wbgo Co), 29 Apr (DTW); 100, Kendall Co, 28 Apr (DJS). **LD**: 3 Jun, Arcola (RC); 29 May (29), Woodside Bridge, Spfld (HDB); 29 May, GrdnPr. (DTW); 28 May (3), JP (KA, KC); 21 May, Rend L (DK). Only three other recent spring reports in excess of 2000 birds (highest 15,000, Champaign Co, 20-21 Apr 1994).

Dunlin
EA: 16 Apr (6), LShel (KF); 16 Apr (2), Newton L (Jasper Co) (MB, LH, VK et al.); 29 Apr, GrtLakes (AFS); 29 Apr (4), n of Wbgo (Wbgo Co) (DTW). **MC**: **303**, GrtLakes & Wauk, 18 May (EW, JE)—**record high spring tally for n IL** (second highest for state overall); 63, GrdnPr., 27 May (DTW); 50, Sgmn Co, 23 May (HDB); 40, Carl.L (Co?), 13 May (KM, DK, FB). **LD**: Into Jun, ne IL (EW); 29 May, LShel (KF); 29 May (2), Woodside Bridge, Spfld (HDB); 21 May (20), Rend L (DK). Strong numbers statewide.

Stilt Sandpiper
EA: **13 Apr** (3), Pulaski Co (KM)—**second earliest IL arrival date**; 4 May, Sang.L (HDB); 6 May, LCal (*WM). **MC**: 4, Sgmn Co, 13 May (HDB); 3, Pulaski Co, 13 Apr (KM); 3, Del Monte ponds, 10 May (DJS); 3, GrdnPr., 14 May (DTW). **LD**: 28 May, Woodside Bridge, Spfld (HDB); 21 May (2), Rend L (DK); 21 May, GrdnPr. (DTW).

Short-billed Dowitcher
EA: 30 Apr, Arcola (RC); 4 May (3), Pulaski Co (FB et al.); 6 May (2), LCal (WM). **MC**: 75, Arcola, 13 May (RC, GL, EC); 67, Wauk, 18 May (EW, JE, DBJ); 53, Heyworth, 14 May (MF); 50, Spoon L (Knox Co), 9 May (MJB); 49, Pulaski Co, 13 May (FB et al.); 48, Pr.Rdg (Marion Co), 17 May (LH). **LD**: 3 Jun, Arcola (RC); 21 May (2), Rend L (DK).

Long-billed Dowitcher
EA: **18 Mar**, CypCrk (FB)—**second earliest IL arrival date**; **29 Mar** (2), Pulaski Co (KM); 15 Apr, Oswego (Kendall Co) (DFS); 21 Apr (3), Lick Creek (Sgmn Co) and s end of LSpfld (HDB). **MC**: 13, Carl.L, 22 Apr (DK); 9, Pulaski Co, 16 Apr (KM). **LD**: 10 May (3), Shaw's Wetland n of Wataga (Knox Co) (MJB); 3 May, Chau (R&SBj); 29 Apr (8), Pulaski Co (KM et al.).

Common Snipe
EA: 28 Feb, Sgmn Co (HDB); **7 Mar** (5), Oswego (Kendall Co) (DJS); **8 Mar**, JP (PC, KC); **8 Mar**, Burham Prairie, LCal (DFS). **MC**: **200**, Clin.L, 1 Apr (RC); **200**, Carl.L, 1 Apr (DK); **150**, Pr.Rdg, 21 Mar (JW, EK); **150**, CypCrk, 29 Mar (KM); **148**, Split Rock L (La Salle Co), 9 Mar (JH). **LD**: 12 May, JP (PC); 6 May, Carl.L (DK); 1 May, s end of LSpfld (HDB). **Other**: **10 Jun** ("probably not a true 'migrant' but not a breeding bird either"), Arcola (RC). **Second highest spring counts, and overall the strongest spring passage on record for IL**; near-record early arrivals in n IL.

American Woodcock
EA: 19 Feb (3), s Shelby Co (KF); 19 Feb, Rend L (Co?) (KM, FB); 25 Feb, JP (KC, PC)—record early for site; 28 Feb, Somonauk (De Kalb Co) (DJS). **MC**: 27 (displaying males), Urbana, 24 Feb (RC)—the only noteworthy high count received. **LD**: 4 May, Evanston (fide EW); 21 Apr (2), JP (PC, SC). **Remarks**: Very few (too dry?) and none displaying on spring census at Sang.L (HDB). Poor numbers again in s IL (KM).

Wilson's Phalarope
EA: 22 Apr (2), Crab Orchard NWR (Williamson Co) (C&JMc); 26-29 Apr (female), Heyworth (MR); 29 Apr - 2 May (female), n of Wbgo (Wbgo Co) (DTW); 13 May (3), LCal (CA). **MC**: 10, Del Monte ponds, 9-10 May (JH, DJS); 10, Knox Co, 10 May (MJB). **LD**: 20 May (2), Carl.L (DK); 18 May, Del Monte ponds (JH); 14 May (female), GrdnPr. (DTW).

Red-necked Phalarope
EA: 20 May (female), Woodside Bridge, Spfld (HDB); 21 May, Arcola (RC).

Phalarope, sp?
27 May, Arcola (RC).

Laughing Gull
Nine reports, all ad., perhaps involving five individuals: 1 May, Sang.L (HDB); 6 May, returning for fourth consecutive summer to Kentucky Fried Chicken parking lot at LCal (*WM, m.ob.); 11 May, Lick Creek (Sgmn Co) (HDB); 13 May, GrtLakes (SH, AFS); 19-20 May (3 reports), Wauk/Evanston (DFS, EW, RC); 18 May, Sgmn Co (HDB).

Franklin's Gull
EA: **5 Mar** (ad.), Carl.L (DK)—**record early spring arrival**; 21 Apr (24), LSpfld (HDB); 1 May, Rockford (DTW); 19 May (1st summer), Linc.P (RDH fide EW). **MC**: 24, LSpfld, as above; 11, Sgmn Co, 27 May (HDB); 10, LShel, 22 Apr (KF); 3 (2 ad., one 1st yr), GrtLakes, 25 May (AFS). **LD**: 15 Jun (1st summer), Evanston (JE); 3 Jun (imm.), GrtLakes (DTW); into Jun, Sgmn Co (HDB).

Little Gull
Three reports, all ad.: 25 Mar, **Mermet L** (KM, FB:video, DK)—**record early spring arrival** by eight days; 3 & 6 Apr, LSpfld (BD, *HDB)—first spring record for Sgmn Co (HDB); 8 Apr, Clin.L (*RC).

Bonaparte's Gull
EA: 27 Feb (9), Clin.L (RC); 28 Feb (150), Sgmn Co (HDB); 6 Mar (3), Shab.L (DJS). **MC**: 1000+, Carl.L, 25 Mar - 8 Apr (DK, KM, FB); 950, Calumet P, LCal, 21 Apr (DFS); 627, JP, 21 Apr (PC, SC); 300+, LSpfld, 28 Feb (MR); 300, Sgmn Co, 4 Apr (HDB). **LD**: 3 Jun (7), GrtLakes (DTW); 27 May (6), Vermilion Co near Homer (JOS). Good numbers.

Ring-billed Gull
MC: 3800, Sgmn Co, 6 Mar (HDB); 500, Crab Orchard NWR (Williamson Co), 13 Mar (KM); 500, Carl.L, 8 Apr (DK); 320, Shab.L, 1 Mar (DJS).

Herring Gull
EA: 26 Mar, Carl.L (DK). **MC**: 114, JP, 16 Apr (PC); 80, Shab.L, 1 Mar (DJS); 7, Chau, 16 Mar (R&SBj); 6, Sgmn Co, 2 & 19 Mar and 10 Apr (HDB). **LD**: 5 Jun (2), Carl.L (Co?) (KM, DK); 31 May (imm.), LSpfld (HDB); 27 May, Rockford (DTW). Poor numbers.

Thayer's Gull
MC: 3, Winthrop Harbor (Lake Co), 17 Mar (MR). **LD**: 18 May (ad.), Wauk (JE, EW); 11 May (1st winter), Rockford (DTW)—the only report away from L Michigan; 24 Apr (1st yr), JP (PC).

Iceland Gull
EA: 11 Mar (ad.), IBSP (AFS). **LD**: 18 Apr (ad. *kumlieni*), JP (PC). The only reports.

Lesser Black-backed Gull
EA: 3 Mar (ad.), JP (PC, KC); 13 Mar (ad.), Rockford (DTW). **LD**: 20 May (3rd summer), Wauk (JE, KM, IOS); 18-19 May (1st summer), Wauk (EW, JE); 25 Apr (subad.), LSpfld (HDB). Several additional reports, especially along L Michigan, may not involve distinct individuals.

Glaucous Gull
EA: 26 Feb (1st yr), JP (SC); 11 Mar (ad.), IBSP (AFS). **LD**: 19 Apr, JP (PC); 14 Apr (1st summer), Evanston (EW, JE). No reports away from L Michigan.

Great Black-backed Gull
EA: 27 Feb (ad.), JP (PC); 19 Mar (2nd yr), Rainbow Beach, Chi (AFS). **LD**: **14 Jun** (3rd summer), Evanston (EW); 3 Jun (2nd winter), IBSP (DTW). Several additional dates—all from L Michigan—may involve no more than a handful of individuals.

Caspian Tern
EA: **31 Mar**, JP (*PC)—**record early arrival for IL** by three days; **4 Apr**, LSpfld (HDB); 7 Apr (4), JP (PC); 13 Apr, Ohio R (Massac Co) (FB). **MC**: **187**, Evanston, 4 May (EW); **152**, JP, **16 Apr** (PC); 129, GrtLakes, 13 May (AFS); 10, Sgmn Co, 7, 20 & 27 May (HDB); 3, Newton L (Jasper Co), 15 Apr (m.ob. fide JW). **LD**: Into Jun, Sgmn Co (HDB); 27 May, Carl.L (DK); 27 May (migrating), Wilmette (EW), but small numbers summering along L Michigan; 26 May, Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co) (JH).

Common Tern
EA: 29 Apr, Clin.L (RC); 4 May (7+), JP (PC, KC). **MC**: 650, Wauk, 19 May (DFS); 525, GrtLakes, 13 May (AFS); 16, Sgmn Co, 23 May (HDB); 2, Smithland Dam (Pope Co), 15 May (FB)—the only report from s IL. **LD**: 14 Jun (ad.), JP (KC); 29 May (2), LSpfld (HDB).

Forster's Tern
EA: 9 Apr (2 ad.), Sang.L (HDB); 12 Apr, Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co) (JH); 13 Apr (6), Ohio R (Massac Co) (FB); 15 Apr (2), Evanston (JE). **MC**: 60+, Evanston, 3 May (EW); 19, Sgmn Co, 1 May (HDB); 13, HL, 16 May (KM). **LD**: Into Jun, Sgmn Co (HDB); 27 May (35 subad.), GrtLakes (EW); 21 May (3), Rend L (DK).

Least Tern
EA: 15 May (5), Smithland Dam (Pope Co) (FB)—the only report.

Black Tern
EA: 1 May, HL (FH); 7 May (3), Heyworth (MR, BW); 6 May (4), Deer L, Antioch (Lake Co) (CSF); 6 May, Durand (Wbgo Co) (DTW); 6 May, Shab.L (DJS). **MC**: **225+**, L Kakusha, Mendota (La Salle Co) & Del Monte ponds, 9 Mar (JH); 100, Sgmn Co, 13 May (HDB); 75, Heyworth, 9 May (MR, TEB). **LD**: 31 May, L Kakusha, Mendota (La Salle Co) (JH); 30 May (3), LSpfld (HDB); 21 May (4), Rend L (DK).

Rock Dove
MC: 180, s Cook Co, 11 Mar (DFS).

Mourning Dove
MC: 62, Sgmn Co, 29 May (HDB); 37, Evanston, 5 May (EW); 20, Carl.L, 6 May (DK). **LD**: 12 May (28 migrating), Evanston (EW).

WHITE-WINGED DOVE
7 May, Ivesdale (Champaign Co). Three accepted IL records (all since 1998).

Monk Parakeet
MC: 29, JP, 7 Mar (PC); 25, LCal, 8 Mar (DFS).

Black-billed Cuckoo
EA: 3 May, Massac Co (FB); 4 May, JP (SC, PC); 5 May, Adams Co (KV). **MC**: 2, IBSP, 20 May (m.ob., fide EW). **LD**: **28 Jun**, JP (PC); 13 Jun, JP (KC); 2 Jun, GrantP (DFS); 31 May, Chinquapin Bluffs (Woodford Co) (MF). **Remarks**: Several observers commented on the decline of both species of cuckoos, and some of the state's most active birders entirely missed one species or the other (or both!) this spring.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo
EA: 30 Apr, Carl.L (DK); 5 May, Montrose (GW); 5 May, Adams Co (KV); 5 May (male), Lick Creek (Sgmn Co) (HDB). **MC**: 8, s Shelby Co, 6 May (KF); 8, Clinton Co, 6 May (KM). **LD**: 15 Jun, JP (KC)—only one of season at this site; 15 Jun (2), Montrose (JL, RDH, fide EW); migrants into Jun?, Sgmn Co (HDB). See remarks at Black-billed Cuckoo.

Eastern Screech-Owl
MC: 4, Rockford, 6 May (DTW); 4, Carl.L, 6 May (DK).

Great Horned Owl
MC: 4, Carl.L, 30 Apr (DK); 3, Apr (various dates), Sgmn Co (HDB).

Barred Owl
MC: 6, Rockford & Sugar R FP (Wbgo Co), 6 May (DTW); 6, Sgmn Co, 6 May (HDB); 6, Carl.L, 6 May (DK).

Long-eared Owl
EA: 22 Feb, JP (SC); 1 Mar, Pecatonica (Wbgo Co) (DTW); 1 Mar, Sang.L (HDB); 26 Mar, Carl.L (DK). **LD**: 15 Apr, JP (PC, KC); 8 Apr, Carl.L (DK); 5 Mar, Sang.L (HDB).

Short-eared Owl
EA: 1 Apr, GrtLakes (SH, AFS). **MC**: 18, Pr.Rdg, 29 Mar (JW, EK); 3, JP, 6 Apr (PC). **LD**: 13 Apr, Evanston (EW, JE); 2 Apr (overwintered), n of Victoria (Knox Co) (MJB); 18 Mar, w of Chatham (Sgmn Co) (HDB); 4 Mar (3), Peabody R King FWA (St. Clair Co) (TUM).

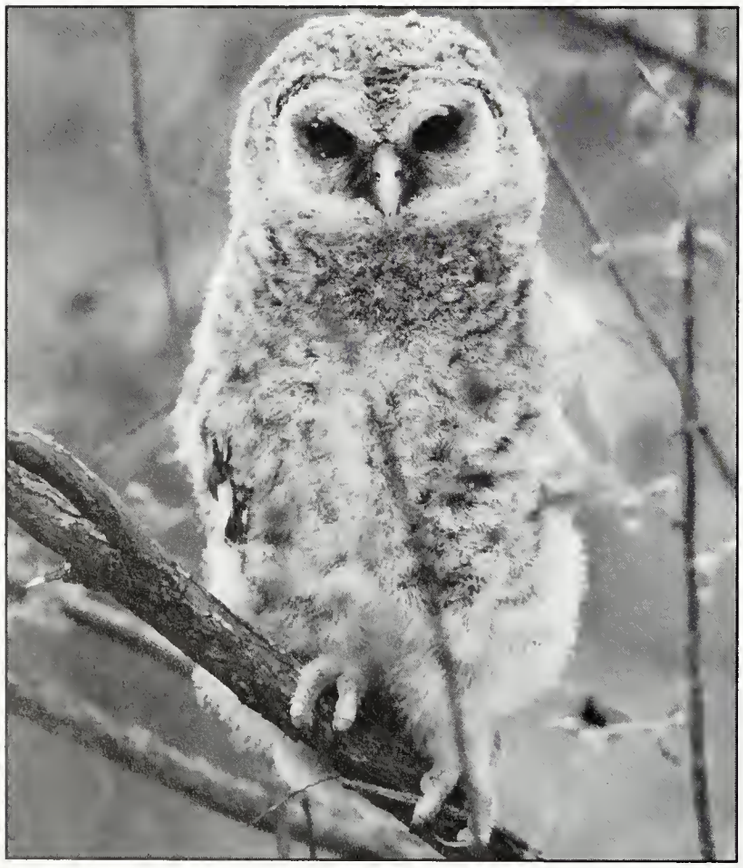
Northern Saw-whet Owl
MC: 2, Eldon Hazlet SP, Carl.L, 5 Mar (DK). **LD**: 7 Mar, Urbana (RC). No other reports.

Common Nighthawk
EA: 1 May, Granite City (Madison Co) (FH); 3 May, Somonauk (De Kalb Co) (DJS); 4 May (6), Urbana (RC); 4 May (2), Spfld (HDB). **MC**: 57 (including birds in passage), Sgmn Co, 23 May (HDB); 25, Carl.L (Co?), 13 May (KM, DK, FB).

Chuck-will's-widow
EA: **12 Apr**, Massac Co (FB)—**record early IL arrival by six days**; 26 Apr (2), Ferne Clyffe SP (Johnson Co) (KM).

Whip-poor-will
EA: 7 Apr (3), Crab Orchard NWR (Williamson Co) (KM); 9 Apr, s Shelby Co (KF); 21 Apr, Calumet P, LCal (DFS). **MC**: 15, Ferne Clyffe SP (Johnson Co), 16 Apr (KM); 2, Sgmn Co, 6 May (HDB); 2, GrantP, 10 May (DFS). **LD**: 21 May (female), JP (PC).

Chimney Swift
EA: **29 Mar** (10), Pulaski Co (KM)—third earliest IL arrival date; 2 Apr, Wash.P (HDB)—record early arrival for Sgmn Co (HDB); 5 Apr, Urbana (RC); 22 Apr (6), JP (PC, KC). **MC**: 410, Johnson Co, 16 Apr (KM); 160, Bureau Co, 6 May (DFS); 110, Sgmn Co, 9 May (HDB).



Barred Owl young, left and Barred Owl adult. 9 May 2000. Washington Park, Springfield, IL, Sangamon Co. Photos by Dennis Oelmke.

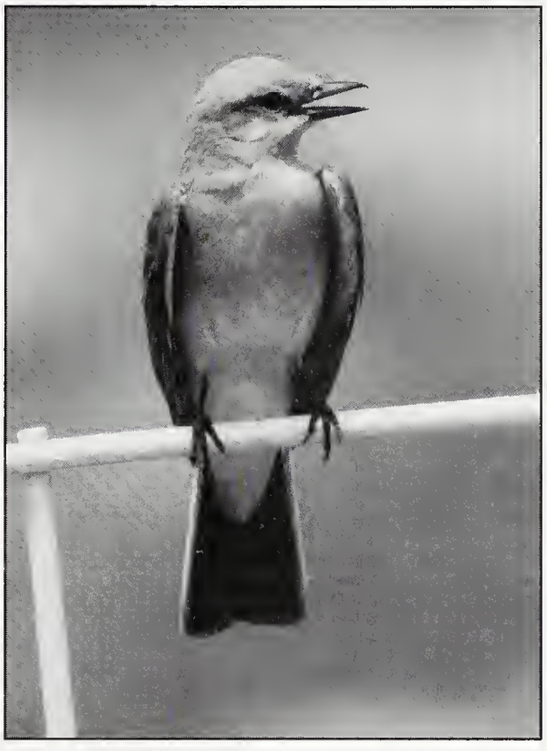
Ruby-throated Hummingbird
EA: 13 Apr, La Rue-Pine Hls (KM); 13 Apr (male), Massac Co (FB); 20 Apr (male), Carp.P (HDB); 4 May, JP (SC). **MC**: **40** (at feeders), Mode (Shelby Co), 20 May (KF)— **record IL spring high count**; 6, IBSP, 20 May (EW, DBJ, JE). **LD**: 26 May (female), JP (GD, PC); 26 May, GrantP (DFS).

Belted Kingfisher
EA: 1 Mar (female), JP (SC)—record early for site (fide PC); 10 Mar, Ron Beese P, Barrington (Cook Co) (CSF); 10 Mar, Adams Co (KV); 14 Mar, Moraine View SP (McLean Co) (MR). **MC**: 9, Evanston/Wilmette, 6 May (JE, MS, EW); 6, Fox R (Kendall Co), 26 Mar (DFS); maxima to 4 birds elsewhere. **LD**: 19 May (female), JP (PC).

Red-headed Woodpecker
EA: 15 Apr, Adams Co (KV); 15 Apr (increase to 4 birds), Sgmn Co (HDB); 28 Apr, GrantP (TS—only record for site this spring). **MC**: 13, Union Co, 13 Apr (KM); 8, no date, Vermilion Co near Homer (JOS); 3, JP, 3 May (PC, m.ob.). **LD**: 14 Jun, Evanston (JE); 26 May, Wilmette (EW). **Remarks**: Almost no high counts reported; extremely few reports from ne IL. A "terrible migration" at JP (PC). "This species seems to get more scarce every year." (DJS). Numbers a little higher than last two springs, but high counts only four at Sgmn Co (HDB).

Red-bellied Woodpecker
EA: 3 May (male), JP (KC). **MC**: 22, Sgmn Co, 2 Apr (HDB); 18, Palos, 18 Apr (DFS); 17, Clinton Co, 6 May (KM). **LD**: 17 May, Calumet P, LCal (DFS); 7 May (female), JP (PC). **Remarks**: As in previous years, records from the Chi lakefront are neatly correlated with migration of Red-headed Woodpecker and should be interpreted as applying to migrants (PC).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
EA: 22 Mar (female), Lick Creek (Sgmn Co) (HDB); 24 Mar (3), LCal (DFS). **MC**: **27**, Urbana, 9 Apr (RC)—record spring high count outside n IL; 14, Sgmn Co, 6 Apr (HDB); 12, Eggers Wds, LCal, 21 Apr (DFS); 4, Pomona, 29 Mar (KM). **LD**: 13 May, GrantP (CA, GW); 2 May, Urbana (RC); 13 Apr (2), Jackson Co (KM). **Other**: 4 Mar, Willowbrook Wildlife Haven, Glen Ellyn (Du Page Co) (GW)—overwintered?



Western Kingbird. 23 May 2000. Springfield, IL, Sangamon Co. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Downy Woodpecker
MC: 20, Fox R (Kendall Co), 15 Apr (DFS); 16, Sgmn Co, 30 Mar (HDB); 14, Jackson Co, 2 Apr (KM); 12, JP, 15 Mar (PC).

Hairy Woodpecker
MC: 8, Morton Arboretum, Lisle (Du Page Co), 18 Apr (DFS); 7, Fort Massac SP (Massac Co), 28 Apr (KM); 5, Sgmn Co, 25 Mar (HDB). **Other**: 8 Mar (female, overwintered), **JP** (PC, KC).

Northern Flicker
EA: 4 Mar (3), Lyons Wds FP (Lake Co) (JM)—wintering??; 8 Mar, Evanston (EW); 12 Mar (male), JP (KC)—record early for site; 12 Mar (2), Shab.L (DJS); 24 Mar (increase), Sgmn Co (HDB). **MC**: 45, JP, 19 Apr (PC); 40+, Urbana, 2 Apr (RC); 19, Union Co, 13 Mar (KM). **LD**: 15 May (migrating), Evanston (EW); 6 May, JP (KA fide PC); 15 Apr (decrease), Sgmn Co (HDB).

Pileated Woodpecker
MC: 8, Jackson Co, 2 Apr (KM); 5, Sgmn Co, 2 & 22 Apr (HDB); 3, Carl.L, 19 Mar (DK). **Other**: 25 Mar, John J. Duffy FP, **Palos** (DFS).

Olive-sided Flycatcher
EA: 6 May, Ewing P, Bloomington (McLean Co) (DB fide MR); 6 May, Hidden Springs SF (Shelby Co) (KF); 6 May, Granite City (Madison Co) (FH); 9 May, JP (PC et al.). **MC**: 3, JP, 23 May (PC, KA); 3, Spfld, 30 May (HDB); 2, Pope & Massac Cos, 15 May (FB). **LD**: 3 Jun, JP (KC); 30 May (3), Spfld (HDB).

Eastern Wood-Pewee
EA: 27 Apr (2), Union Co (KM); 30 Apr, s Shelby Co (KF); 4 May, Urbana (RC); 4 May, JP (PC, SC); 4 May, Wolf L, LCal (DFS). **MC**: 19, GrantP, 2 Jun (DFS); 13, Sgmn Co, 28 May (HDB); 11, Union Co, 9 May (KM). **LD**: 14-15 Jun, Montrose (RDH fide EW); 14 Jun, Evanston (JE); 13 Jun, GrantP (TS fide EW). These are among the latest published migration dates, but the published record on June migrants is known to be incomplete. This is especially the case for expected late migrants such as flycatchers, and doubly so for those species which breed in IL. Previously unpublished late departure dates for this species from JP include **5 Jul 1996** (PC) and **21 Jun 1995** (male) (PC).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
EA: **5 May**, Swallow Cliffs FP, Palos (DFS); **6 May**, JP (PC)—**record early arrivals for n IL** (see Remarks); 8 May, Wash.P (HDB); 15 May (2), Pope Co (FB). **MC**: 15, IBSP, 18 May (EW, JE); 8, GrantP, 2 Jun (DFS, TS); 7, Sgmn Co, 19 May (HDB). **LD**: **14 Jun**, Evanston (JE)—**second latest published departure for n IL**; 6 Jun, GrantP (JB fide TS); 5 Jun, Urbana (RC); 27 May, Carl.L (DK). **Remarks**: The 1988 published arrival date of 2 May should be deleted, as the identification was queried in the observer's original records (fide PC).

Acadian Flycatcher
EA: 23 Apr, La Rue-Pine Hls (C&JMc); 30 Apr, s Shelby Co (KF); 6 May (2), Sugar R FP (Wbgo Co) (DTW). **MC**: 13, Clinton Co, 6 May (KM); 5, Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co), 6 May (C&JMc). **LD**: 5 Jun, Urbana (RC); 31 May (male), JP (PC).

Alder Flycatcher
EA: 9 May, Moraine View SP (McLean Co) (MR); 10 May (2), Wash.P and Sang.L (HDB); 13 May (2), AtwdRdg & Mermet L (DK, KM, FB); 15 May, Ryerson CA, Riverwoods (Lake Co) (AFS). **MC**: 7, Deer G East, 18 May (CSF); 5, Sgmn Co, 24 May (HDB). **LD**: 11 Jun, Mahomet (Champaign Co) (RC); 6 Jun, Calumet P, LCal (DFS). See next for "Traill's Flycatcher".

Willow Flycatcher
EA: 4 May, Wolf L, LCal (DFS); 6 May (2), JP (PC); 6 May, Urbana (RC); 6 May (2), s Shelby Co (KF); 13 May (2), Pulaski & Union Cos (FB, DK, KM). **MC**: 8, GrantP, 12 May (DFS); 6, Carl.L (Co?), 5 Jun (KM); 2, Sgmn Co, 19 May (HDB). **LD**: 15 Jun, Montrose (JL fide EW); 9 Jun, JP (KC). **"Traill's Flycatcher"**: **MC**: 16, GrantP, 23 May (DFS).

Least Flycatcher
EA: **20 Apr**, GrantP (DFS); **20 Apr**, Urbana (RC); 21 Apr, Ewing P, Bloomington (McLean Co) (MR); 25 Apr, Rock Cut SP (DTW); 27 Apr, Grassy L (Union Co) (KM). **MC**: 25, Urbana, 8 May (RC); 25, Evanston/Wilmette, 12 May (EW); 17, JP, 14 May (PC). **LD**: 2 Jun, GrantP (DFS); 30 May, Oak R (Sgmn Co) (HDB); 28 May, Granite City (Madison Co) (RC). Poor numbers in s IL (KM), where reported high counts did not exceed 2 birds.

Eastern Phoebe
EA: 4 Mar, Middle Fork R Co FP (Champaign Co) (RC); 4 Mar (2), s Shelby Co (KF); 9 Mar (5), JP (PC, KC); 9 Mar, Starved Rock SP (La Salle Co) (JH); 13 Mar (2), Pomona (KM). **MC**: 26, Urbana, 2 Apr (RC); 14, JP, 26 Mar (PC); 7, Union Co, 29 Mar (KM). **LD**: 2 May, JP (KC).

Great Crested Flycatcher
EA: 16 Apr, Pomona (KM); 19 Apr, Center P, LSpfld (HDB); 1 May, Deer G East (CSF); 1 May, Lone Grove FP (Kane Co) (DJS). **MC**: 26, Shelby Co, 6 May (KF); 14, Palos, 14 May (DFS); 14, JP, 31 May (PC); 9, Union Co, 27 Apr (KM). **LD**: **21 Jun** (4+), JP (PC); 16 Jun (2), Evanston (JE). **Remarks**: The published record on late departure dates is very sparse for this species, but some migration can be expected to mid- Jun in n IL most years. This year's departure is the latest published, but migrants were detected through the same date at this site in 1996 (PC). Other published late dates are through 18 Jun (in 1997).

Western Kingbird
EA: **25 Apr**, Granite City (Madison Co) (FH)—**second earliest on record, and only the second April datum for IL**; **2 May** (pr—breeding population), LSpfld (HDB)—**third earliest record for IL**. **MC**: **7**, Granite City (Madison Co), 16 May (KM); **6**, same site, 4 May (DK,

FH)—**the first spring tallies in excess of two birds**; the one higher count for IL (10 birds, again at Granite City, 29 Jul 1998) includes young. **LD**: 30 May, **IBSP** (*DD).

Eastern Kingbird
EA: 16 Apr (6), Mermet L (KM); 22 Apr, Danville (Vermilion Co) (DTW, IOS, fide RC); 22 Apr, s of LSpfld (HDB); 2 May, JP (JR); 3 May (4), Wbgo Co (DTW). **MC**: 36, Sgmn Co, 20 May (HDB); 17, LCal, 6 May (WM, TVB); 16, Carl.L, 6 May (DK). **LD**: 26 May (migrating), Wilmette (EW).

Loggerhead Shrike
EA: 20 Mar, w of Sang.L (HDB); 1 Apr, Sadorus (Champaign Co) (RC); 2 May (into Jun), n of Wbgo (Wbgo Co) (DTW). **MC**: **21**, Pr.Rdg, 21 Mar (JW); 3, Massac Co, 26 Apr (KM); 2, Carl.L, 26 Mar (DK); 2, sw of Spfld, 6 May (HDB). **Others** (singles): 4 Mar, Breese (Clinton Co) (DK); 19 Mar - 6 May, Carl.L (DK); 14 Apr, New Baden (Clinton Co) (DK); 4 Jun, n of Wbgo (Wbgo Co)—distinct from record above (DTW).

Northern Shrike
LD: 29 Mar, cinder flats at LSpfld (HDB, BD)—record late date for Sgmn Co (HDB); 23 Mar, Des Plaines R Wetlands Demonstration Project (Lake Co) (SH); 17 Mar, Chain- O-Lakes SP (Lake Co) (DTW, EW); 14 Mar, Ron Beese P, Barrington (Cook Co) (CSF). No others reported.

White-eyed Vireo
EA: 9 Apr, Union Co (KM); 10 Apr, Massac Co (FB); 21 Apr (male), Lick Creek (Sgmn Co) (HDB); 22 Apr, Kickapoo SP (Vermilion Co) (DTW, m.ob.); 3 May (male), JP (PC, SF). **MC**: 17, Union Co, 22 Apr (KM); 8, e Bureau Co, 6 May (DFS); 7, Urbana, 12 May (RC). **LD**: 2 Jun, GrantP (DFS).

Bell's Vireo
EA: 2 May, Rock Cut SP (DTW); 5 May (male), Sang.L (HDB); 6 May, Carl.L (KM, DK); 8 May (3), Pr.Rdg (JW, EK); 12 May, Urbana (RC); 17 May (singing), Skokie Lagoons, Glencoe/Winnetka (Cook Co) (AFS). **MC**: 3, Sgmn Co, 6 & 19 May (HDB). Five additional reports of singles in s IL.

Yellow-throated Vireo
EA: **7 Apr**, Pomona (KM); 16 Apr, Adams Co (KV); 19 Apr (male), Carp.P (HDB); 1 May, JP (SC et al.); 3 May (2), Rock Cut SP (DTW). **MC**: 10, e Bureau Co, 6 May (DFS); 9, Union Co, 22 Apr (KM); 9, Sgmn Co, 9 May (HDB). **LD**: 24 May, GrantP (TS, DFS); 13 May, JP (KC, KA); 13 May (2), Chippewa Wds FP, Des Plaines (Cook Co) (AA).

Blue-headed Vireo
EA: **18 Apr**, Swallow Cliffs FP, Palos (DFS)—**ties previous n IL early arrival record from 1994**; **19 Apr**, Hyde P, Chi (SC); 19 Apr, Urbana (RC); 19 Apr (male), Sgmn Co (HDB); 21 Apr, Massac Co (FB). **MC**: 5, IBSP, 18 May (EW, JE); 3, Sgmn Co, 28 Apr & 8 May (HDB); 3, AtwdRdg, 28 Apr (KM). **LD**: **3 Jun**, JP (KC); 23 May, Wash.P (HDB); 23 May, GrantP (DFS).

Warbling Vireo
EA: **8 Apr**, Mermet L (KM); **9 Apr**, Massac Co (FB)—**second & third earliest IL arrival dates**; **18 Apr** (male), Sang.L (HDB)—**record early for c IL**; 22 Apr, Kickapoo SP (Vermilion Co) (RC, IOS); 27 Apr (3), JP (TVB, PC); 29 Apr (3), I & M Canal (La Salle Co) (DJS). **MC**: 27, LCal, 17 May (DFS); 26, Shelby Co, 6 May (KF); 22, Union Co, 22 Apr (KM).

Philadelphia Vireo
EA: 29 Apr, OakwdBtms (KM et al.); 1 May, JP (KA, JR); 1 May, Urbana (RC). **MC**: 6, Sgmn Co, 13 May (HDB); 6, IBSP, 18 May (EW, JE); 3, AtwdRdg, 13 May (DK). **LD**: 26 May (2), JP (SC); 23 May (2), Sgmn Co (HDB).

Red-eyed Vireo
EA: 16 Apr (3), Pomona (KM); 21 Apr, Wash.P (HDB); 1 May, JP (PC); 5 May, Johnsons Mound FP (Kane Co) (DJS). **MC**: **75**, Palos, 18 May (DFS); **65**, Rock Cut SP, 20 May (DTW); 23, Union Co, 22 Apr (KM); 22, Sgmn Co, 20 May (HDB). **LD**: 13 Jun, Montrose (TVB fide EW); 13 Jun, Evanston & Wilmette (JE); 29 May (decrease), Sgmn Co (HDB).

Blue Jay
EA: 26 Mar (many in passage), McDonough & Fulton Cos (LLH); 31 Mar (3), JP (PC)— record early arrival for site; 2 Apr, Evanston (EW). **MC**: 194, Evanston, 6 May (EW, JE, MS); 104, Evanston, 12 May (EW); 42, Sgmn Co, 1 Apr (HDB); 32, Union Co, 13 Mar (KM). **LD**: 14 Jun (**52+** migrating), Evanston (EW); 7 May (decrease), Sgmn Co (HDB).

Remarks: Poor movement at JP (PC). Large numbers passed through McDonough & Fulton Cos all during the spring migration (LLH).

American Crow
MC: 78, Clinton Co, 6 May (KM); 50, Sgmn Co, 2 Apr (HDB). No migrants reported.

Fish Crow
EA: **19 Feb**, Union Co (KM). **MC**: 16, Union Co, 22 Apr (KM). **Other**: 25 Mar, Pomona (DK, KM, FB). Poorly reported.

Horned Lark
EA: 30 Jan (805), LSpfld (HDB); 21 Feb, JP (PC). **MC** (post-Feb): 80, Sgmn Co, 12 Mar (HDB); 41, Clinton Co, 6 May (KM); 20, Carl.L, 8 Apr (DK). **LD**: **20 May**, GrtLakes (EW)—**latest published migration date in recent literature**; 14 May, Evanston (EW). **Leucistic**: 19-26 Mar, Carl.L (Fayette Co) (DK).

Purple Martin
EA: 4 Mar, Joppa (Massac Co) (FB); 16 Mar (3), Shelbyville (Shelby Co) (KF); 5 Apr, Mendota (La Salle Co) (JH). **MC**: 100, Mermet L, 29 Mar (KM); 68, Shelbyville (Shelby Co), 6 May (KF); 22, Evanston, 6 May (EW); 20, Durand (Wbgo Co), 6 May (DTW). **LD**: 30 May (4), GrantP (TS). Few reports.

Tree Swallow
EA: **2 Mar** (15), Chau (R&SBj)—**record early outside s IL**; **3 Mar**, Rockford (DTW)— **record early for n IL**; 4 Mar (3), Joppa (Massac Co) (FB); **5 Mar** (7), La Salle L (C&JMc)—**a second record early date for n IL**; 8 Mar, Eggers Wds, LCal (DFS); 8 Mar, Clin.L (RC). **MC**: **5000**, Heyworth, 1 May (MR)—**ties 1989 for second highest spring tally**; 650, Mermet L, 29 Mar (KM). **LD**: 13 May (4), Sgmn Co (HDB); 10 May, Evanston (EW).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow
EA: 23 Mar, Jackson Co (KM); 28 Mar, Adams Co (KV); 28 Mar, Rochester (Sgmn Co) (HDB); 11 Apr, JP (PC, KC). **MC**: **500**, Heyworth, 1 May (MR)—**nearly twice the previous highest spring count**; 89, Evanston/Wilmette, 6 May (EW, JE, MS); 50, Pulaski Co, 9 Apr (KM).

Bank Swallow
EA: **25 Mar** (2), CypCrk (KM, DK, FB)—**record early IL arrival** by three days; 8 Apr, LSpfld (HDB); 21 Apr, Fermi (GW); 29 Apr (13), Rockford (DTW). **MC**: 500, Heyworth, 1 May (MR); 200+ (breeding colony), Rockford, 11 May (DTW); 25, HL, 26 May (KM).

Cliff Swallow
EA: 29 Mar, Belleville (St. Clair Co) (DK); 12 Apr (30), LShel (KF); 17 Apr, LSpfld (HDB); 21 Apr, Evergreen L (McLean Co) (MR); 26 Apr, JP (PC, SC). **MC**: **1000**, Heyworth, 1 May (MR); 300, Sgmn Co, 14 May (HDB); 150, Carl.L, 6 May (DK); 41 (breeding population), JP, 27 May (PC). **LD**: 1 Jun (2), Northbrook (Cook Co) (EW).

Barn Swallow
EA: **13 Mar**, Johnson Co (KM); 19 Mar, HL (FH); 1 Apr, Clin.L (RC); 11 Apr, JP (PC, KC). **MC**: **2000**, Heyworth, 1 May (MR)—**highest single-party spring count for IL**; 161, Evanston, 6 May (EW, JE, MS); 125, Pulaski Co, 27 Apr (KM).

Carolina Chickadee
MC: 20, Carl.L, 6 May (DK).

Black-capped Chickadee
MC: **63**, Fox R (Kendall Co), 26 Mar (DFS)—**highest non-SBC spring tally for IL**; 28, Sgmn Co, 2 Apr (HDB).

Tufted Titmouse
MC: 33, Sgmn Co, 2 & 15 Apr (HDB); 22, Union Co, 22 Apr (KM).

Red-breasted Nuthatch
EA: 4 Mar (2), Lyons Wds FP (Lake Co) (JM)—overwintered??; 15 Apr, Linc.P (GW); 22 Apr, Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe (Cook Co) (AA). **MC**: 7, AtwdRdg, 22 Apr (KM); 3, Sgmn Co, 6 & 9 Apr (HDB); 3, JP, 28 Apr (PC). **LD**: 20 May, IBSP (KM, TK); 12 May, JP (PC); 10 May (male), Lincoln Memorial Garden, LSpfld (HDB); 30 Apr, Carl.L (DK); 28 Apr (4), AtwdRdg (KM).

White-breasted Nuthatch
MC: 20, Palos, 18 Apr (DFS); 16, Sgmn Co, 2 Apr (HDB); 10, Union Co, 22 Apr (KM). No movements reported.

Brown Creeper
EA: 14 Mar, Wilmette (JE fide EW); 14 Mar, JP (SC); 25 Mar, Bushnell (McDonough Co) (LLH). **MC**: 25, Evanston, 13 Apr (JE); 22, JP, 11 Apr (PC, KC); 15, Urbana, 2 Apr (RC); 5, Pomona, 13 Mar (KM). **LD**: 20

May, GrantP (DEW fide DFS); 18 May, Sannauk FP (De Kalb Co) (DJS); 8 May, s Shelby Co (KF); 2 Apr, La Rue-Pine Hls (KM).

Carolina Wren
MC: 22, Union Co, 22 Apr (KM); 13, Sgmn Co, 19 May (HDB); 6, Bureau Co, 6 May (DFS). **Others** (extralimital): 8 & 21 Mar, 27 Apr, Evanston (JE); 15 May, Dresden Cooling Pond (Grundy Co) (EW).

Bewick's Wren

No reports.

House Wren
EA: 10 Apr (2), s Shelby Co (KF); 13 Apr (male), Lick Creek (Sgmn Co) (HDB); 13 Apr, Pomona (KM); 15 Apr, Harlem Hills Prairie (Wbgo Co) (DTW); 18 Apr (male), JP (PC). **MC**: 50, Kendall Co, 7 May (DFS); 30, Sgmn Co, 29 May (HDB); 7, Monroe Co, 16 May (KM). **LD**: 26 May, GrantP (DFS); 26 May, Wilmette (EW); 25 May, JP (PC).

Winter Wren
EA: 4 Mar, Urbana (RC); 13 Mar, McClaughry Springs FP, Palos (CA); 25 Mar, Sannauk FP (De Kalb Co) (DJS). **MC**: 12, Sgmn Co, 11 Apr (HDB); 5, JP, 23 Apr (PC) & 26 Apr (PC, SC); 4, Pomona, 13 Mar (KM). **LD**: 10 May, Wash.P (HDB); 2 May, JP (PC); 30 Apr, Sandy Ford (La Salle Co) (C&JMc); 18 Apr (3), Jackson Co (KM).

Sedge Wren
EA: **15 Apr**, Carl.L (DK); **16 Apr**, Pulaski Co (KM)—**second and third earliest IL arrival dates**; **22 Apr**, Goose L Pr. (DJS); 25 Apr, sc Knox Co (MJB); 1 May (2), Deer G East (CSF); 1 May, JP (PC). **MC**: 12, Searls Prairie, Rockford, 6 May (JA fide DTW); 12, L Kakusha, Mendota (La Salle Co), 6 May (JH). **LD**: 27 May, JP (KC); 21 May, IBSP (KM). **Remarks**: Poor numbers statewide (only two counts in excess of 2 birds reported, both on SBCs). None at Sgmn Co for the first time since 1988 (HDB).

Marsh Wren
EA: 29 Mar, OakwdBtms (KM); 15 Apr, Clin.L (RC); 22 Apr, Goose L Pr. (DJS); 30 Apr, e of Pecatonica (Wbgo Co) (DTW); 30 Apr, Hyde L Wetland, LCal (WM). **MC**: 12, w of Rockton (Wbgo Co), 6 May (DTW); 10, Evanston, 15 May (EW); 6, Clin.L, 29 Apr (RC); 5, CypCrk, 30 Apr (FB). **LD**: **2 Jun**, JP (KA); 26 May, Wilmette (EW); 10 May, Wash.P (HDB). **Remarks**: Very scarce at Sgmn Co (HDB). The 2 Jun departure is the latest in recent literature, but there are unpublished later dates—e.g., from same site, **18 Jun 1988** (HR) and **5 Jun 1983** (PC).

Golden-crowned Kinglet
EA: 10 Mar (male), JP (PC)—record early for site by one day; 10 Mar (2), s Shelby Co (KF); 13 Mar, McClaughry Springs FP, Palos (CA). **MC**: **150+**, Urbana, 2 Apr (RC)— **ties previous spring high counts** from 1994 and 1998; 50, Evanston, 13 Apr (JE); 43, Fox R (Kendall Co), 26 Mar (DFS); 15, Carl.L, 8 Apr (DK). **LD**: 30 Apr, Urbana (RC); 30 Apr (7), JP (PC); 18 Apr (4), Sgmn Co (HDB); 8 Apr (2), Heron Pond (Johnson Co) (KM).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet
EA: 13 Mar, Pomona (KM); 26 Mar, Urbana (RC); 26 Mar, Lick Creek (Sgmn Co) (HDB); 1 Apr (3), JP (PC). **MC**: 52, Sgmn Co, 21 Apr (HDB); 33, Humboldt P, Chi, 16 Apr (AA); 14, Union Co, 22 Apr (KM). **LD**: 29 May, Afton FP (De Kalb Co) (DJS); 28 May (female), Evanston (JE); 22 May, Urbana (RC); 9 May, AtwdRdg (KM).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
EA: 2 Apr (3), Pomona (KM); 2 Apr (3), Massac Co (FB); 8 Apr (2), s Shelby Co (KF); 9 Apr (2), Sgmn Co (HDB); 14 Apr (male), Evanston (JE); 15 Apr (2), Sugar R FP (Wbgo Co) (DTW). **MC**: **100**, Carl.L, 22 Apr (DK); 64, Union Co, 22 Apr (KM); 42, Pomona, 27 Apr—record high count for site (KM); 27, Shelby Co, 6 May (KF); 15, Evanston/Wilmette, 6 May (EW, JE, MS); 15, e Bureau Co, 6 May (DFS). **LD**: 26 May, Wilmette (EW). Poor numbers in n two-thirds of state.

Eastern Bluebird
EA: 2 Feb (6), Sgmn Co (HDB); 26 Feb, Urbana (RC); 4 Mar, Palos (CA). **MC**: 33, Union Co, 13 Mar (KM); 28, Sgmn Co, 29 May (HDB); 6, Paul Douglas FP, Hoffman Estates (Cook Co), 31 Mar (CSF). **LD**: **8 Jun** (female), JP (PC).

Veery
EA: 20 Apr, Urbana (RC); 21 Apr, Robinson Wds FP, Schiller P (Cook Co) (AA); 22 Apr, La Rue-Pine Hls (KM); 27 Apr, JP (PC, SC). **MC**: **60+**, IBSP, 20 May (EW); 21, JP, 6 May (PC, KA); 8, Urbana, 6 May (RC). **LD**: **14 Jun** (singing), Evanston (JE); 4 Jun, Monticello (Piatt Co) (RC); 26 May (2), JP (SC); 6 May, Carl.L (DK). Poor numbers over most of state, and only singles in s IL, but respectable numbers in Chi area.

Gray-cheeked Thrush
EA: 22 Apr, Heron Pond (Johnson Co) (KM); 27 Apr, Urbana (RC); 29 Apr, Sannauk FP (De Kalb Co) (DJS); 2 May (2), JP (WS). **MC**: 9, Urbana, 6 May (RC); 9, IBSP, 20 May (EW); 6, Carl.L, 6 May (DK). **LD**: 31 May, JP (PC); 26 May, Sang.L (HDB); 20 May, Carl.L (DK).

Swainson's Thrush
EA: **13 Apr**, AtwdRdg (KM); 17 Apr, s Shelby Co (KF); 18 Apr, Urbana (RC); 20 Apr, Hyde P, Chi (JR fide PC); 1 May, Lone Grove FP (Kane Co) (DJS). **MC**: 92+, IBSP, 18 May (EW, JE); 25, Urbana, 6 May (RC); 21, Sgmn Co, 6 May (HDB); 16, Clinton Co, 6 May (KM). **LD**: 4 Jun, JP (PC); 29 May, Chinquapin Bluffs (Woodford Co) (MF); 26 May, Wash.P (HDB); 16 May, Jackson Co (KM). **Remarks**: Several observers commented on poor numbers of thrushes, especially this species.

Hermit Thrush
EA: **7 Mar** (window-kill—specimen to Field Museum of Natural History, Chi), McCormick Place, Chi (DEW fide DFS)—**second earliest migrant record for IL** (an apparent migrant was noted at Clinton Co on 6 Mar 1996); 26 Mar, JP (RDM); 26 Mar (2), Lick Creek (Sgmn Co) (HDB). **MC**: 33, GrantP, 20 Apr (DFS); 15, Sgmn Co, 11 Apr (HDB); 4, Pomona, 16 Apr (KM). **LD**: 16 May, Illinois Institute of Technology campus, Chi (GW); 12 May, Urbana (RC); 26 Apr (3), Heron Pond (Johnson Co) (KM).

Wood Thrush
EA: **15 Apr**, Urbana (RC)—**second earliest arrival in recent literature outside s IL**; 16 Apr, Mermet L (KM); 21 Apr, Lick Creek (Sgmn Co) (HDB); 30 Apr, Rockford (DTW); 1 May, JP (SC). **MC**: 20, e Bureau Co, 6 May (DFS); 18, Shelby Co, 6 May (KF); 10, Carl.L, 6 May (DK). **LD**: 23 May, GrantP (DFS).

American Robin
EA: 14 Feb (30), s Shelby Co (KF); mid-Feb, Sgmn Co (HDB); 22 Feb (3 males), JP (PC). **MC**: 987, Union & Jackson Cos, 13 Mar (KM); 500, Urbana, 12 Mar (RC); 412, JP, 24 Mar (PC); 340, se Kankakee Co, 11 Mar (DFS).

Gray Catbird
EA: 20 Apr, Carp.P (HDB); 21 Apr, Mermet L (FB); 27 Apr, JP (PC, SC). **MC**: 71, JP, 6 May (PC, m.ob.); 57, LCal, 4 May (DFS); 19, Sgmn Co, 1 May (HDB); 10, Carl.L, 6 May (DK). **LD**: 2 Jun (5), GrantP (DFS); 31 May (8), JP (PC).

Northern Mockingbird
EA: **14 Mar**, Evergreen L (McLean Co) (JP fide MR); 8 Apr (increase), Sgmn Co (HDB); 25 Apr, La Salle Co (C&JMc); 6 May, Beaubien Wds FP, LCal (WM). **MC**: 12, Sgmn Co, 29 May (HDB); 6, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co), 12 Mar (KM). **LD**: **13 Jun**, Evanston (JE)— **second latest published migrant departure date** (see *Meadowlark* 5.4, p. 131, for a migrant on 16 Jun 1996); 23 May, JP (KC). **Other**: 1-30 May (on territory), near Carlock (Woodford Co) (MF).

Brown Thrasher
EA: 8 Mar (overwintered?), Lodge (Piatt Co) (RC); 12 Mar (male), sw of Spfld (HDB); 13 Mar, Pomona (KM); 9 Apr, JP (KC, PC); 15 Apr, Rock Cut SP (DTW). **MC**: 18, Sgmn Co, 15-16 Apr (HDB); 14, e Bureau Co, 6 May (DFS); 10, Carl.L, 6 May (DK). **LD**: **14 Jun**, Evanston (JE)—**latest migrant record in recent literature**, but among unpublished late dates are migrants to **19 Jun 1996** (PC) at JP.

European Starling
EA: 22 Feb (79 migrants), JP (PC). **MC**: 1250, se Kankakee Co, 11 Mar (DFS); 1031 (948 migrants, 83 residents), JP, 26 Feb (PC)—heaviest spring passage recorded for site. **LD**: 11 May (87—"peak of migration in May"), Evanston (EW); 4 May (16 migrants), JP (PC).

American Pipit (1st wave)
EA: **29 Feb** (6), near Sang.L (HDB); 9 Mar (17), Split Rock L (La Salle Co) (JH); 17 Mar (20), s Shelby Co (KF). **MC**: **500+**, Marion Co, 25 Mar (MAH); **450**, Carl.L, 19 Mar (DK)—**all-time record high counts**; **300**, Pr.Rdg, 21 Mar (JW, EK); **225**, Colfax (McLean Co), 26 Mar (MR); 120, Sgmn Co, 20 Mar (HDB); 40, Hennepin (Putnam Co), 11 Apr (DFS). **LD**: 1 Apr (flock of 50-75), near Argyle L SP (McDonough Co) (LLH); 20 Mar, Sgmn Co (HDB). **Remarkable numbers**! There are only two previously published spring counts in excess of 150 birds: 340 at Pulaski Co, 13 Mar 1992, and 250 at Pr.Rdg, 6 Apr 1998. IL fall maxima reached a high of 320 birds in 1998.

American Pipit (2nd wave)
EA: **7 Apr**, Sgmn Co (HDB)—apparently a record-early "2nd wave" arrival for the state; 12 Apr (7), McLean Co (KM); 1 May (12), Evanston (JE); 1 May (76), GrantP (DFS). **MC**: **200**, Colfax (McLean Co), 15 Apr (MR); 100, Carl.L, 8 Apr (DK); 100, nc Marion Co, 15 Apr (VK et al.); **76**, GrantP, 1 May (DFS)—**record spring high count for n IL**. **LD**: 23 May, Linc.P (RDH fide EW); 6 May, Carl.L (DK, KM); 6 May (2), Shelby Co (KF).

Cedar Waxwing (1st wave)
EA: **5 Jan** (45), Sgmn Co (HDB)—**earliest reported migrants for IL**; **14 Jan** (18), JP (KC); 1 Feb (6), s Shelby Co (KF); 4 Mar (60), Willowbrook Wildlife Haven, Glen Ellyn (Du Page Co) (GW); 13 Mar (2), Pulaski Co (KM). **MC**: 212, Sgmn Co, 29 Feb (HDB); 114, Sgmn Co, 4 Mar (HDB). **LD**: 17 Apr (60), Songbird Slough FP, Itasca (Du Page Co) (AA); 8 Apr, Adams Co (KV); 3 Apr, Sgmn Co (HDB).

Cedar Waxwing (2nd wave)
EA: 1 May (8), Deerfield (Cook Co) (JE); 4 May (6), JP (JR); 8 May, Sgmn Co (HDB). **MC**: 170, Morton Arboretum, Lisle (Du Page Co), 18 May (DFS); 60, HL, 26 May (KM); 50, Sgmn Co, 19 May (HDB). **LD**: **22 Jun** (8), Riverwoods (Lake Co) (EW); **21 Jun** (14), JP (KC, PC); 29 May, Sgmn Co (HDB). Published data on late spring departures are few, but unpublished records from JP (where breeding records are very sparse) include flocks larger than family groups through mid-Jun in several years. This year's departure dates in ne IL appear to be later than typical. The one later date published in the recent literature is of 31 birds at JP on **4 Jul 1997** (PC). Four birds in a flock at this site on **9 Jul 1996** (PC) provide the latest available migration date.

Blue-winged Warbler
EA: 16 Apr, Pomona (KM); 24 Apr (female), Wash.P (HDB); 1 May (4), Rockford (DTW); 1 May (2), Deer G East (CSF). **MC**: 8, Rock Cut SP, 20 May (DTW); 7, Palos, 5 May (DFS); 5, Pomona, 27 Apr (KM); 5, Urbana, 4 May (RC). **LD**: 12 May, Carp.P (HDB); 10 May (male), Chippewa Wds FP, Des Plaines (Cook Co) (AA); 9 May, Wilkinson-Renwick Marsh (De Kalb Co) (DJS). **Others**: **"Brewster's Warbler"**: 2 May, Iroquois Wds FP, Des Plaines (Cook Co) (AA). **"Brewster's" x Blue-winged Warbler back-cross**: 1 May (singing male), Angler's P, Bloomington (McLean Co) (MR).

Golden-winged Warbler
EA: 27 Apr, Pomona (KM); 1 May (2), Deer G East (CSF); 1 May (male), JP (KA, PC); 2 May (3—one male, two females), Sgmn Co (HDB). **MC**: 5, Palos, 5 May (DFS); 4, Sgmn Co, 10 May (HDB); 2, Union Co, 4 May (FB). **LD**: 26 May (male), Wash.P (HDB); 19 May (male), GrantP (DFS); 6 May, Carl.L (DK, KM).

Tennessee Warbler
EA: 20 Apr, Heron Pond (Johnson Co) (KM); 29 Apr, Clin.L (RC); 1 May (2), Rockford (DTW); 5 May, JP (PC). **MC**: **300**, Urbana, 9 May (RC)—**record IL high count outside SBC multiple-observer parties**; **220**, Palos, 15 May (DFS); 45, n Effingham Co, 6 May (MAH). **LD**: 2 Jun, Evanston (EW); 30 May, Kankakee R (e Kankakee Co) (DFS); 25 May (female), Sgmn Co (HDB); 16 May, Jackson Co (KM).

Orange-crowned Warbler
EA: 19 Apr (2), Carp.P (HDB); 21 Apr, Angler's P, Bloomington (McLean Co) (TEB fide MR); 22 Apr, AtwdRdg (KM); 28 Apr, JP (KC et al.). **MC**: 6, Urbana, 30 Apr; 4, JP, 2 May (WS, PC) & 4 May (PC). **LD**: 21 May, JP (GW); 19 May, Wash.P (HDB).

Nashville Warbler
EA: 20 Apr, Humboldt P, Chi (AA); 20 Apr, c and s IL (m.ob.). **MC**: 50+, Urbana, 4 May (RC); 40, LCal, 4 May (DFS); 11, Union Co, 22 Apr (KM). **LD**: 3 Jun (male—attempting to summer??), Lowden-Miller SF (Ogle Co) (DFS); 29 May, JP (KC); 25 May (male), Sgmn Co (HDB); 13 May, AtwdRdg (KM).

Northern Parula
EA: **25 Mar** (2), La Rue-Pine Hls (KM, DK, FB)—**second earliest IL arrival date**; 8 Apr, s Shelby Co (KF); 14 Apr (male), Carp.P (HDB); 16 Apr (male), Heyworth (TEB fide MR); 1 May, GrantP (TS). **MC**: **40**, Jackson & Union Cos, 16 Apr (KM)—**second highest non-SBC count in recent literature**; 15, Shelby Co, 6 May (KF); 5, LCal, 4 May (DFS). **LD**: **10 Jun**, Morton Arboretum, Lisle (Du Page Co) (EW, JF)—**latest migrant date on record** by four days; 2 Jun, Rock Cut SP (DTW); 29 May, Chinquapin Bluffs (Woodford Co) (MF).

Yellow Warbler
EA: 21 Apr (2), Mermet L (FB); 22 Apr (6), Danville (Vermilion Co) (SB, IOS fide RC); 27 Apr (male), JP (PC, KC). **MC**: **59**, LCal, 4 May (DFS); 12, OakwdBtms, 29 Apr (KM et al.); 12, Carl.L, 30 Apr (DK); 9, Mahomet (Champaign Co), 6 May (RC). **LD**: **21 Jun** (male), JP (PC); **15 Jun**, Wilmette (EW); 5 Jun, GrantP (DFS). The mid- to late Jun departure dates are the latest available in the recent IL literature. A previously unpublished later date is **26 Jun 1996** (male), JP (PC), and there are numerous unpublished mid-Jun departures.

Chestnut-sided Warbler
EA: **21 Apr**, Mermet L (FB)—**record early for IL** by one day; 29 Apr, Clin.L (RC); 4 May (7 males), JP (PC, m.ob.). **MC**: 15, JP, 6 May (KA, PC); 13, Sgmn Co, 14 May (HDB). **LD**: 6 Jun, LCal (DFS); 30 May (singing male), Kankakee R (e Kankakee Co) (DFS); 28 May (male), LSpfld (HDB); 13 May, AtwdRdg (DK, KM, FB).

Magnolia Warbler
EA: 28 Apr, Adams Co (KV); 1 May (3), Deer G East (CSF); 1 May, Lone Grove FP (Kane Co) (DJS); 1 May (3 males), JP (PC, KC); 6 May (6), Clinton Co (KM); 6 May (3), Mermet L (FB). **MC**: 39, JP, 12 May (PC, SC); 37, GrantP, 16 May (DFS); 25, Urbana, 12 May (RC). **LD**: 4 Jun (female), JP (PC); into Jun, Sgmn Co (HDB).

Cape May Warbler
EA: 1 May (2 males), JP (PC, KC); 1 May, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co) (KM); 1 May, s Clinton Co (KM); 3 May, Urbana (RC). **MC**: 18 (15 males, 3 females), JP, 15 May (PC); 10, Carl.L, 6 May (DK, KM); 9, Urbana, 8 May (GL, RC). **LD**: 26 May (female), GrantP (DFS); 15 May (female), Carp.P (HDB).

Black-throated Blue Warbler
EA: 1 May (male), JP (PC, KA); 1 May, Urbana (RC). **MC**: 2, Palos, 14 May (WS); 2, JP, 16 May (PC). **LD**: 2 Jun (female), Linc.P (RDH fide EW); 24 May (male), JP (KC); 15 May, Urbana (RC). **Remarks**: A poor migration statewide. None (!) at Sgmn Co (HDB).

Yellow-rumped Warbler
EA: 11 Mar, Ryerson CA (Lake Co) (SH)—migrant??; 19 Mar, Urbana (RC); 1 Apr (male), JP (PC). **MC**: **300+**, Evanston, 1 May (JE); 229, Des Plaines R (Schiller P, Rosemont & Des Plaines) (Cook Co), 6 May (AA); 100, Carl.L, 22 Apr (DK); 62, Sgmn Co, 1 May (HDB). **LD**: 31 May (female), Palos (WS); 25 May, Sgmn Co (HDB); 6 May (30), Carl.L (DK).

Black-throated Green Warbler
EA: **25 Mar**, La Rue-Pine Hls (KM, FB, DK)—**ties for record early IL arrival**; 15 Apr, Urbana (RC); 20 Apr (male), Evanston (JE). **MC**: 15, IBSP, 18 May (EW, JE); 10, Union Co, 22 Apr (KM); 4, Shelby Co, 6 May (KF); 4, Sgmn Co, 12 May (HDB). **LD**: **13 Jun**, Montrose (LM fide EW); 24 May (2), JP (PC, KC); 23 May (female), Sgmn Co (HDB); 6 May, Carl.L (DK).

Blackburnian Warbler
EA: 27 Apr, Urbana (RC); 27 Apr, Pomona (KM); 1 May (4 males), JP (PC, KA); 1 May, Blackhawk FP (Kane Co) (JM). **MC**: 9, IBSP, 18 May (EW, JE); 7, Swallow Cliffs FP, Palos, 18 May (DFS); 3, Sgmn Co, 2, 11 & 13 May (HDB); 2, Mermet L, 6 May (FB). **LD**: **11 Jun** (singing male), JP (PC); 6 Jun (singing male), LCal (DFS); 23 May (2), Lincoln Memorial Garden, LSpfld (HDB).

Yellow-throated Warbler
EA: **23 Mar** (2), Mermet L (FB); **25 Mar**, Pomona (KM, DK, FB)—**second and third earliest IL arrivals**; 6 Apr, Urbana (RC); 15 Apr (male) to end of period, Sugar R FP (Wbgo Co) (DTW, AFS, JM), but first report was 10 days earlier at this site (fide DTW). **MC**: 13, Jackson Co, 16 Apr (KM); 8, Vermilion Co (IOS fide RC); 4, Carp.P, 28 Apr (HDB). **LD**: 20 May (singing male), **Wauk** (JE); 6 May, Shelby Co (KF). **Others** (north): 28 Apr - 6 May (singing male), Green Oaks (**Knox Co**) (MJB); 7 & 17 May, Wright FP & Half Day FP (Lake Co) (AFS).

Pine Warbler
EA: 13 Mar (2), Pomona (KM); 30 Mar, Bloomington (McLean Co) (CMs fide MR); 16 Apr, Wilkinson-Renwick Marsh (De Kalb Co) (DTW); 20 Apr, JP (KC). **MC**: 8, Pomona, 25 Mar (KM); 3, Urbana, 27 Apr (RC). **LD**: 20 May, Rock Cut SP (DTW); 9 May, Urbana (RC); 5 May (female), JP (PC); 26 Apr, Beall Wds SP (Wabash Co) (KM).

Prairie Warbler
EA: **7 Apr**, Union Co (KM); 24 Apr (male), Lick Creek (Sgmn Co) (HDB); 29 Apr, Clin.L (RC); 1 May (female), JP (KC, PC). **MC**: 9, Heron Pond (Johnson Co), 20 Apr (KM). **LD**: 23 May (male), GrantP (DFS); 5 May, Urbana (RC).

Palm Warbler
EA: 8 Apr, Carl.L (DK); 17 Apr, Chi (JL); 19 Apr (6), Sgmn Co (HDB). **MC**: 84, JP, 6 May (PC, m.ob.); 62, LCal, 4 May (DFS); 40, Clin.L, 29 Apr (RC); 15, Carl.L, 6 May (DK). **LD**: 21 May (2), JP (PC, KC); 20 May, Sgmn Co (HDB).

Bay-breasted Warbler
EA: **22 Apr**, Heron Pond (Johnson Co) (KM); 1 May, Urbana (RC); 3 May (male), JP (PC, m.ob.). **MC**: 20, Palos, 15 May (DFS); 3, Union Co, 9 May (KM; 3, Sgmn Co, 10, 14 & 15 May (HDB). **LD**: 3 Jun (male), Lowden-Miller SF (Ogle Co) (DFS); 21 May (female), JP (PC); 20 May, Carl.L (DK); 15 May (3), Sgmn Co (HDB).

Blackpoll Warbler
EA: 21 Apr, Mermet L (FB); 22 Apr, Carl.L (DK); 23 Apr (male), Sgmn Co (HDB); 4 May (male), JP (PC); 6 May, Oak Mound Cemetary (De Kalb Co) (DJS). **MC**: 36, JP, 15 May (PC); 31, Swallow Cliffs FP, Palos, 18 May (DFS); 16, Clinton Co, 6 May (KM); 12, Sgmn Co, 15 May (HDB). **LD**: 2 Jun, JP (KA); 2 Jun, GrantP (DFS); 25 May (female), Sgmn Co (HDB); 21 May, HL (FH).

Cerulean Warbler
EA: 16 Apr (2), Pomona (KM); 27 Apr, Urbana (RC); 3 May (3—two males, 1 female), Skokie R Nature Preserve (Lake Co) (RP). **MC**: 14, Sugar R FP (Wbgo Co), 7 May (DTW); 9, Pomona, 27 Apr (KM); 4, Ewing P, Bloomington (McLean Co), 4 May (MR). **LD**: **8 Jun** (singing male), JP (PC)—**latest IL migrant date**; 20 & 25 May, Deer G East (CSF); 11 May (male), Carp.P (HDB).

Black-and-white Warbler
EA: **29 Mar**, Pomona (KM)—**ties previous record early IL arrival**; 6 Apr, s Shelby Co (KF); 15 Apr, Chippewa Wds FP, Des Plaines (Cook Co) (AA). **MC**: 13, Evanston, 6 May (JE, EW, MS); 6, Clin.L, 29 Apr (RC); 6, Urbana, 4 May (RC); 3, Union Co, 7 Apr (KM). **LD**: **14 Jun** (imm. male), Evanston (JE); 29 May, Chinquapin Bluffs (Woodford Co) (MF); 28 May (female), Wash.P (HDB); 13 May, Pomona (DK, KM, FB).

American Redstart
EA: 18 Apr, Pomona (KM); 1 May (3 males), Deer G East (CSF); 1 May (male), JP (SC); 1 May, s Shelby Co (KF). **MC**: 105, IBSP, 18 May (EW, JE); 72, LCal, 17 May (DFS); 25, Urbana, 9 May (RC); 24, Clinton Co, 6 May (KM). **LD**: 11 Jun (2 first yr males), JP (PC); 2 Jun (6), GrantP (DFS); 31 May (2 ø-plumage), Sgmn Co (HDB). **Melanistic**: 23-25 May (male), GrantP (DFS).

Prothonotary Warbler
EA: **7 Apr**, Mermet L (KM); 19 Apr, Urbana (RC); 2 May, Des Plaines R Wetlands Demonstration Project (Lake Co) (SH). **MC**: 22, Union Co, 25 Apr (KM); 10+ (territories), Chau, 18 May (R&SBj); 6 (breeding population), Kankakee R (e Kankakee Co), 29 May (DFS). **LD**: 13-20 May (singing male), Oswego (Kendall Co) (DFS); 17 May (female), Wolf L, LCal (DFS); 17 May (male), Skokie Lagoons, Glencoe/Winnetka (Cook Co) (AFS). **Remarks**: Severely affected by drought in Sgmn Co (HDB).

Worm-eating Warbler
EA: 16 Apr (2), Pomona (KM); 20 Apr, Urbana (RC); 30 Apr, Ryerson CA (Lake Co) (SH). **MC**: 14, AtwdRdg, 28 Apr (KM); 5, Union Co, 4 May (FB); 3, Urbana, 9 May (RC). **LD**: 13 May (male), Carp.P (HDB); 7 May, Thatcher Wds FP (Cook Co) (GW). **Remarks**: "A good showing in McLean County" (MR), but almost no reports from n IL.

Ovenbird
EA: 20 Apr, Urbana (RC); 20 Apr, s Shelby Co (KF); 21 Apr, Mermet L (FB); 1 May, Rockford (DTW); 1 May (3 males), JP (PC). **MC**: 39, JP, 12 May (PC, SC); 21, Sgmn Co, 9 May (HDB); 5, Clinton Co, 6 May (KM). **LD**: 6 Jun, Calumet P, LCal (DFS); 26 May, Wash.P (HDB).

Northern Waterthrush
EA: 15 Apr, Mermet L (FB); 20 Apr, Carp.P (HDB); 23 Apr, JP (AFS, JRS). **MC**: 28, JP, 12 May (SC, PC); 26, LCal, 4 May (DFS); 16, Urbana, 4 May (RC); 5, Clinton Co, 6 May (KM). **LD**: 29 May (2), JP (PC); 24 May, Lick Creek (Sgmn Co) (HDB). **Leucistic**: 4 May, Urbana (RC).

Louisiana Waterthrush
EA: 23 Mar (2), Pomona (KM); 23 Mar, Mermet L (FB); 25 Mar, Sang.L (HDB); 4 Apr, JP (PC). **MC**: 9, Jackson Co, 7 Apr (KM); 4, De Kalb Co, 6 May (DJS); 2, Sgmn Co, 6 Apr (HDB). **LD**: 18 May, Swallow Cliffs FP, Palos (DFS); 18 May, Humboldt P, Chi (AA); 11 May, Carp.P (HDB).

Kentucky Warbler
EA: 12 Apr, Urbana (RC); 20 Apr (2), Heron Pond (Johnson Co) (KM); 20 Apr, Massac Co (FB); 23 Apr, Carp.P (HDB). **MC**: **17**, Pomona, 27 Apr (KM)—**highest non-SBC count since 1985**; 3, Sgmn Co, 5, 21 & 25 May (HDB); 3, Palos, 11 May (WS). **LD**: **29 May**, Urbana (RC); 19 May, GrantP (DFS); 18 May (male), Ryerson CA, Riverwoods (Lake Co) (AFS).

Connecticut Warbler
EA: **4 May** (male—"great look, good amt of time"), Humboldt P, Chi (AA)—**ties for record early IL arrival** in recent literature, although there appear to be no documented records prior to 8 May; **8 May**, Urbana (RC); 11 May (2), Shelbyville (Shelby Co) (KF); 18 May, Rockford (DTW). **MC**: 4, Urbana, 29 May (RC); 3 (males), JP, 23 May (PC). **LD**: **18 Jun** (singing male), JP (*PC)—**record late date for IL by five days**; 4 Jun, JP (PC); 25 May (male), Carp.P (HDB). **Remarks**: Nearly absent (deflected east?) at Sgmn Co (HDB).

Mourning Warbler
EA: 30 Apr, Carl.L (DK); 7 May (male), JP (PC, m.ob.); 8 May (male), Wash.P (HDB). **MC**: 10, GrantP, 23 May (DFS, TS); 7, Urbana, 29 May (RC). **LD**: 2 Jun, JP (KA); into Jun, Sgmn Co (HDB); 20 May, Carl.L (DK).

Common Yellowthroat
EA: **23-25 Mar** (2), OakwdBtms (KM, FB, DK)—remarkably early, unless overwintered; IL migrant records otherwise date from 8 Apr; 20 Apr, Urbana (RC); 20 Apr (male), Sang.L (HDB); 27 Apr (male), JP (PC). **MC**: 58, GrantP, 9 May (DFS); 40, Union Co, 22 Apr (KM); 29, Sgmn Co, 13 May (HDB). **LD**: 5 Jun (3), GrantP (DFS); 1 Jun (6), JP (PC).

Hooded Warbler
EA: 9 Apr, La Rue-Pine Hls (KM); 20 Apr, Urbana (RC); 1 May (female), GrantP (TS); 1 May (male), JP (SC et al.). **MC**: 5, Urbana, 7 May (RC); maxima to 2 elsewhere. **LD**: 30 May (male), Wash.P (HDB); 26 May (male), GrantP (JE); 24 May (female), GrantP (DFS). **Remarks**: Poor spring in s IL—only three locations noted in normal haunts (KM)—but normal numbers reported from much of state, and good numbers at Urbana.

Wilson's Warbler
EA: 1 May (male), JP (PC, SC); 1 May (male), Wash.P (HDB); 5 May, Rend L (KM). **MC**: 33, LCal, 17 May (DFS); 20+, Urbana, 13 May (RC, GL, EC). **LD**: 4 Jun (male), JP (PC); 30 May (male), s end of LSpfld (HDB); 27 May, Carl.L (DK).

Canada Warbler
EA: 6 May, Evanston (EW, JE, MS); 6 May, JP (KA); 6 May (3), s Shelby Co (KF). **MC**: 11, GrantP, 24 May (DFS); 9, Sgmn Co, 14 May (HDB); 9, Deer G East, 19 May (CSF). **LD**: 13 Jun, Montrose (LM fide EW); 6 Jun, Calumet P, LCal (DFS); 29 May, Urbana (RC); 29 May, Chinquapin Bluffs (Woodford Co) (MF). No data received from s IL.

Yellow-breasted Chat
EA: 22 Apr, Union Co (KM); 30 Apr, s Shelby Co (KF); 3 May, JP (PC, KC). **MC**: 5, Shelby Co, 6 May (KF); maxima to 4 birds elsewhere. **LD**: 1 Jun, JP (DJJ, AG); 1 Jun, Montrose (RDH fide EW). **Remarks**: None (!), 29 May, Green R CA (Lee Co), where expected (JH).

Summer Tanager
EA: 20 Apr, Union Co (KM); 25 Apr (male), Wash.P (HDB); 27 Apr (first female of spring), Sgmn Co (HDB); 4 May (1st yr male), Humboldt P, Chi (AA). **MC**: 9, Union Co, 2 May (KM); 4, Shelby Co, 6 May (KF); 4, Urbana, 13 May (EC, RC, GL). **LD**: 20 May, Rock Cut SP (DTW); 19 May (1st yr male), Deer G East (CSF); 18 May (female), Wash.P (HDB).

Scarlet Tanager
EA: 16 Apr (2), AtwdRdg (KM); 16 Apr, Heron Pond (Johnson Co) (KM); 27 Apr (male), LSpfld (HDB); 1 May (female), JP (KC). **MC**: 30, Palos, 15 May (DFS); 14, Sgmn Co, 13 May (HDB); 9, Union Co, 22 Apr (KM). **LD**: 3 Jun (male), JP (TM); 23 May (female), GrantP (DFS); 21 May, Sgmn Co (HDB).

Eastern Towhee
EA: 5 Mar, s Shelby Co (KF); 6 Mar (male), Sgmn Co (HDB); 26 Mar (male), JP (RDM). **MC**: 37, Shelby Co, 6 May (KF); 11, Jackson Co, 7 Apr (KM); 4, IBSP, 18 May (EW, JE); 4, JP, various dates (PC et al.). **LD**: 21 May (male), JP (PC). Poorly reported.

American Tree Sparrow
EA: 22 Feb (2), JP (SC); 26 Feb (22), Evanston (EW). **MC**: 140, La

Salle L, 19 Mar (C&JMc); 40, Sgmn Co, 19 Mar (HDB); 26, LCal, 8 Mar (DFS). **LD**: 4 May, Eggers Wds, LCal (DFS); 22 Apr (2), s Shelby Co (KF); 25 Mar, Sang.L (HDB); 11 Mar, Carl.L (DK).

Chipping Sparrow
EA: 23 Mar (2), Jackson Co (KM); 25 Mar (at feeder), Vermilion Co near Homer (JOS); 25 Mar (2), Sgmn Co (HDB); 1 Apr, Somonauk (De Kalb Co) (DJS); 2 Apr, Rockford (DTW). **MC**: 150+, Urbana, 20 Apr (RC)—**ties single-observer high count set at same site last fall**; 91, Bureau Co, 6 May (DFS); 28, Jackson Co, 16 Apr (KM). **LD**: 15 May (2), JP (PC). **Other**: 17 Jun (outside known breeding area), Evanston (JE).

Clay-colored Sparrow
EA: 20 Apr, Urbana (RC); 23 Apr, Adams Co (KV); 1 May, Deer G East (CSF); 1 May, GrantP (DFS). **MC**: 12, Evanston/Wilmette, 12 May (EW); 12, Montrose, 14 May (AFS); 8, GrantP, 8 May (DFS, TS). **LD**: 28 May (singing), Evanston (JE); 21 May (2), Montrose (AFS, GW); 14 May, Wash.P (HDB); 13 May, Urbana (RC, EC, GL). **Remarks**: No reports from south, and singles only in c IL, but good numbers in northeast. Best spring on record in the Evanston/Wilmette area, with 36 sightings 4-14 May (EW).

Field Sparrow
EA: 10 Mar, Urbana (RC); 10 Mar, s Shelby Co (KF); 26 Mar, JP (PC, KC). **MC**: 40, Carl.L, 8 Apr (DK); 18, Sgmn Co, 15 Apr (HDB); 12, JP, 14 Apr (PC). **LD**: 15 May, JP (PC). Very few reports.

Vesper Sparrow
EA: 18 Mar, Fishhook Wildlife Management Area (Moultrie Co) (RC); 20 Mar, s Shelby Co (KF); 23 Mar, Jackson Co (KM); 23 Mar, La Rue-Pine Hls (KM); 24 Mar, JP (PC). **MC**: 25, Kendall Co, 15 Apr (DFS)—**highest non-SBC spring datum in over a decade**; 8, Carl.L (Fayette Co), no date (DK); 5, Sgmn Co, 16 Apr (HDB). **LD**: 14 Apr, JP (PC); 2 Apr, CypCrk (KM).

Lark Sparrow
EA: 16 Apr, near Gifford (Champaign Co) (RC); 18 Apr, s Shelby Co (KF); 24 Apr, Carl.L (DK); 6 May, e of Pecatonica (Wbgo Co) (DTW); 8 May, Montrose (TS et al.). **MC**: 8, Wbgo Co, 20 May (JM); 2, w of Vermont (Fulton Co), 30 Apr (LLH); 2, Sgmn Co, 26 Apr & 6 May (HDB). **LD**: 12 May, Evanston (EW); 11 May (different from preceding), Evanston (EW); 6 May, Clinton Co, (KM). **Remarks**: Second through fourth records for Evanston in past 70 years (EW).

Savannah Sparrow
EA: 5 Mar, La Salle L (C&JMc); 6 Mar (3), LSpfld (HDB); 11 Mar, Fermi (GW); 24 Mar (2), JP (PC); 24 Mar, Van Vlissengen Prairie, LCal (DFS). **MC**: 140, GrantP, 1 May (DEW, DFS)—**second highest spring count on record**; 46, Evanston, 6 May (EW, JE, MS); 21, Pulaski Co, 13 Apr (KM); 11, Sgmn Co, 22 Apr (HDB). **LD**: 13 Jun, Evanston (JE)—**ties record late migrant date set in 1999** (see *Meadowlark* 9.1, p. 40); 28 May, JP (PC); 19 May, Sang.L (HDB); 13 May (2), CypCrk (KM). **Remarks**: Best spring on record at Evanston (EW).

Grasshopper Sparrow
EA: 18 Apr, s Shelby Co (KF); 22 Apr, Jackson Co (KM); 29 Apr (7), Wbgo Co (DTW); 4 May, Wilmette (JE). **MC**: 19, e of Pecatonica (Wbgo Co), 6 May (DTW); 14, Clinton Co, 6 May (KM); 9, Sgmn Co, 29 May (HDB). **LD**: 14 Jun, Montrose (RDH fide EW)— **latest reported migrant for IL**; 31 May, JP (PC, KC). **Remarks**: A previously unpublished record of a single at JP on 22 Jun 1985 (DP, HR) may be of an exceptionally late migrant.

Henslow's Sparrow
EA: 14 Apr, GrantP (DFS, TS); 15 Apr, JP (KA); 16 Apr (4), Pulaski Co (KM); 20 Apr (4 singing in one field), n of Spoon L (Knox Co) (MJB). **MC**: 32, Pr.Rdg, 2 May (JW, EK); 15, Bremer Sanctuary (Montgomery Co), 8 May (MAH); 11, Knox Co, 6 May (MJB); 10 (singing males), Clin.L, 29 May (RC); 6, Goose L Pr., 16 May (AFS). **LD**: 18 May, JP (PC); 13 May, Lower Cache R (Pulaski Co) (DK); additional dates into late May likely involve terrritorial birds. **Remarks**: Unprecedented invasion in Knox Co (where very few previous records), with nine territorial males (MJB).

Le Conte's Sparrow
EA: 8 Mar, Sang.L (HDB); 18 Mar, Fishhook Wildlife Management Area (Moultrie Co) (RC); 25 Mar (2), Pulaski Co (KM, FB, DK); 13 Apr, GrantP (DFS). **MC**: 7, Pr.Rdg, 20 Apr (JW, EK); 4, Carl.L, 8 Apr (DK); 3, Sgmn Co, 2 Apr (HDB); 3, Clin.L, 29 Apr (RC); 3, JP, 1 May (SC, KW). **LD**: 12 May, JP (KC); 30 Apr, Carl.L (DK); 26 Apr, Sang.L (HDB).

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow
EA: 12-14 May (1-3), Pr.Rdg (LH); 13 May, Clin.L (GL, RC, EC); 15 May, JP (KC, SC). **MC**: 3, Pr.Rdg, 18 May (JW, EK); 2, GrantP, 18 May (TS). **LD**: 22 May, JP (PC).

Fox Sparrow
EA: 23 Feb, JP (PC); 5 Mar, Silver Springs SP (Kendall Co) (DJS); 5 Mar (influx), Urbana (RC). **MC**: 60+, Urbana, 12 Mar & 26 Mar (RC); 34, JP, 1 Apr (KC, PC); 28, LCal, 24 Mar (DFS). **LD**: 4 May, Eggers Wds, LCal (DFS); 16 Apr, s Shelby Co (KF); 25 Mar, Carl.L (DK).

Song Sparrow
EA: 14 Feb (2), s Shelby Co (KF); 22 Feb, JP (PC, SC). **MC**: 89, LCal, 24 Mar (DFS); 40, Sgmn Co, 5 Mar (HDB); 40, Carl.L, 8 Apr (DK).

Lincoln's Sparrow
EA: 20 Apr, GrantP (DFS); 20 Apr, Heron Pond (Johnson Co) (KM); 20 Apr, Fort Massac SP (Massac Co) (FB); 21 Apr, JP (PC); 22 Apr, Middle Fork SFWA (Vermilion Co) (SB, IOS fide RC). **MC**: 33, GrantP, 8 May (DFS); 28, IBSP, 18 May (EW, JE); 7, Sgmn Co, 1 & 2 May (HDB). **LD**: 5 Jun, GrantP (DFS); 20 May, Carl.L (DK); 20 May, nw of Spfld (HDB).

Swamp Sparrow
EA: 26 Feb (2), JP (PC, SC); 5 Mar (increase), Sgmn Co (HDB); 12 Mar, Urbana (RC); 18 Mar (3), Wilkinson-Renwick Marsh (De Kalb Co) (DJS). **MC**: 95, GrantP, 20 Apr (DFS); 40, Carl.L, 8 Apr (DK); 24, Sgmn Co, 25 Mar (HDB). **LD**: 28 May, JP (PC); 20 May, Sang.L (HDB); 6 May (5), Clinton Co (KM, DK).

White-throated Sparrow
EA: 20 Feb, s Shelby Co (KF); 4 Mar (influx), Urbana (RC); 8 Apr, Adams Co (KV); 14 Apr, JP (PC). **MC**: 1000+, Urbana, 1-2 May (RC)—**second highest single-party spring tally on record**; 200, JP, 1 May (PC); 175, Sgmn Co, 1 May (HDB); 40, Carl.L, 8 Apr (DK). **LD**: 31 May (3), JP (PC); 25 May (2), s Shelby Co (KF); 14 May, HL (FH).

Harris's Sparrow
EA: 12 Mar, HL (FH); 1 May, Roscoe (Wbgo Co) (DTW); 1 May, Urbana (RC). **LD**: 9 May (2), Evanston (EW, JE)—only the second and third spring records for site (EW); 2 May, Carl.L (Fayette Co) (LH). **Others**: 17 Apr, HL (FH:ph.); 3-6 May, w of Rockton (Wbgo Co) (DTW); 3 May, Chau (R&SBj).

White-crowned Sparrow
EA: 18 Apr, JP (KC); 19 Apr (3), s Shelby Co (KF); 23 Apr, Urbana (RC); 27 Apr, Rockford (DTW). **MC**: 540, JP, 4 May (PC, KC, SC); 80, Carl.L, 22 Apr (DK); 20, Sgmn Co, 3 May (HDB). **LD**: 13 Jun (race *leucophrys*), Evanston (JE); 15 May, O'Fallon (St. Clair Co) (KM); 15 May, s Shelby Co (KF). For third consecutive spring, remarkable concentrations along L Michigan exceeded White-throated Sparrow numbers there.

Dark-eyed Junco
EA: 23 Feb, JP (PC). **MC**: 83, LCal, 24 Mar (DFS); 75, Sgmn Co, 28 Mar (HDB); 12, Union Co, 13 Mar (KM). **LD**: 1 Jun (female), GrantP (TS)—the eighth Jun record for IL; 15 May, Western Springs (Cook Co) (DFS); 27 Apr (2), Heyworth (MR); 26 Apr, Heron Pond (Johnson Co) (KM). No "Oregon Juncos" reported this season.

Lapland Longspur
EA: 25 Mar (4), IBSP (AFS). **MC**: 1000, Colfax, 1-15 Apr (MR); 50, n of Wbgo (Wbgo Co), 6 May (DTW). **LD**: 6 May (2), Shaw's Wetland n of Wataga (Knox Co) (AR fide MJB); 6 May (8—2 males, 6 females), Campbell Airport, Wauk (CSF).

Smith's Longspur
EA: 4 Mar, Middle Fork R Co FP (Champaign Co) (RC)—other than an anomalous record of 9 birds at Rend L (Franklin Co) on 10 Feb 1991, this is the earliest IL arrival; 10 Mar, LSpfld (HDB); 21 Mar (5), Pr.Rdg (JW, EK). **MC**: 350, Pr.Rdg, 13 Apr (JW, EK); 100+, near Gifford (Champaign Co), 22 Apr (RC, SB, IOS); 85 (flock), n of Victoria (Knox Co), 31 Mar (MJB); 70 (flock), Shaw's Wetland n of Wataga (Knox Co), 7 Apr (MJB). **LD**: 8 May, Shaw's Wetland n of Wataga (Knox Co) (MJB)—**ties record late date set last spring**; 6 May (female), n of New Philadelphia (McDonough Co) (LLH); 5 May (7), Pr.Rdg (JW). **Remarks**: Suffered from drought in Sgmn Co (HDB).

Snow Bunting
Reported only from La Salle L. **MC**: 38, La Salle L, 5 Mar (C&JMc). **LD**: 9 Apr, La Salle L (C&JMc).

Northern Cardinal
MC: 82, Kendall Co, 15 Apr (DFS); 80, Carl.L, 8 Apr (DK); 52, Sgmn

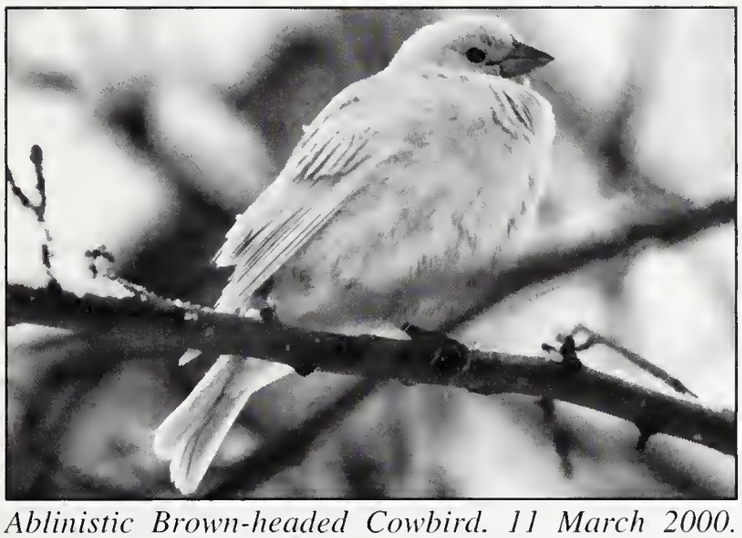
Co, 2 Apr (HDB).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak
EA: 20 Apr, Fort Massac SP (Massac Co) (FB); 22 Apr (2), s Shelby Co (KF); 23 Apr (at feeder), Sand Ridge SF (Mason Co) (R&SBj); 1 May, n IL (m.ob.). **MC**: 30, Evanston, 6 May (EW, JE, MS); 25+, Urbana, 7 May (RC); 15, Carl.L, 6 May (DK). **LD**: 6 Jun (male), Calumet P, LCal (DFS); 26 May (male), JP (PC). **Possible hybrid Rose- breasted x BLACK-HEADED Grosbeak**: 23 Apr (female or imm. male), Carp.P (*HDB).

Blue Grosbeak
EA: 20 Apr, Heron Pond (Johnson Co) (KM); 20 Apr, Massac Co (FB); 22 Apr (male), s of Giant City SP (Union Co) (C&JMc); 8 May (male), Matthiessen SP (La Salle Co) (JH, C&JMc); 11 May (female), n of Spoon L (Knox Co) (MJB). **MC**: 4, AtwdRdg, 9 May (KM). **Others**: 16 May, Fort de Chartres (Randolph Co) (KM); 29 May (singing male), n of Spoon L (Knox Co) (MJB); 29 May, Clin.L (RC).

Indigo Bunting
EA: 19 Apr, Massac Co (FB); 21 Apr (2 males), Sgmn Co (HDB); 1 May (2), Lone Grove FP (Kane Co) (DJS); 1 May, Centennial Trail, Romeoville (Will Co) (CA). **MC**: 74, e Bureau Co, 6 May (DFS); 70, Clinton Co, 6 May (KM); 58, Shelby Co, 6 May (KF); 43, Sgmn Co, 29 May (HDB). **LD**: 2 Jun (2), GrantP (DFS).

PAINTED BUNTING
A 1st yr male on 21-22 Apr, at a feeder in Gurnee (Lake Co). See seasonal highlights.



Ablinistic Brown-headed Cowbird. 11 March 2000. Springfield, IL. Sangamon Co. Photo by Dennis Oehmke.

Dickcissel
EA: 23 Apr, Massac Co (FB); 29 Apr, Adams Co (KV); 5 May (3), La Salle Co (C&JMc). **MC**: 31, Sgmn Co, 29 May (HDB); 23, McDonough Co, 6 May (LLH); 21, Clinton Co, 6 May (KM, DK). **LD**: **16 Jun** (female), Evanston (JE); **13 Jun** (male), Evanston (JE). **Remarks**: The Jun departure dates are the latest specific dates published in the recent literature, but there are later, previously unpublished dates from non-breeding sites—e.g., late dates from JP include **21 Jun 1990** (female) (KC) and **20 Jun 1996** (female) (PC), while a male there on **7 Jul 1995** (PC) is perhaps outside the expected movements of this species.

Bobolink
EA: 25 Apr, Union Co (KM); 27 Apr (male), w of Sang.L (HDB); 1 May (male), JP (PC). **MC**: **181**, s Shelby Co, 6 May (KF); 80, Pr.Rdg, 2 May (JW, EK); 40+ (males), Bartel Grasslands, Tinley P (Cook Co), 14 May (AA). **LD**: 10 Jun (female), JP (KC); 22 May, Urbana (RC); 13 May (6), Union Co (KM).

Red-winged Blackbird
EA: **17 Jan**, Sgmn Co (HDB)—**earliest published migrant date for c IL**; 10 Feb, Urbana (RC); 11 Feb (3), Skokie (Cook Co) (fide EW). **MC**: 10,000, Sgmn Co, 21 Mar (HDB); 3200, se Kankakee Co, 11 Mar (DFS). **LD**: 29 Apr (decrease), Sgmn Co (HDB).

Eastern Meadowlark
EA: 1 Feb (9), Sgmn Co (HDB); 26 Feb, JP (PC). **MC**: 38, Sgmn Co, 1 Apr (HDB); 31, Pulaski Co, 13 Apr (KM); 30, Carl.L, 8 Apr (DK); 14, Songbird Slough FP, Itasca (Du Page Co), 17 Apr (AA). **LD**: 15 May, Evanston (EW).

Western Meadowlark
EA: 5 Mar (2), De Kalb Co (DJS); 8 Mar, Bellflower (McLean Co) (RC). **MC**: 4, Bartelso (Clinton Co), 1 Apr (DK). **LD** (south): 4-6 Apr, Columbia (Monroe Co) (KM, DK).

Yellow-headed Blackbird
EA: **13 Mar** (7), Mermet L (FB)—**second earliest IL arrival date**; 12 Apr (male), Bushnell (McDonough Co) (CF fide LLH); 15 Apr (2 males), Hegewisch Marsh, LCal (WM); 30 Apr (male), n of Wbgo (Wbgo Co) (DTW). **MC**: 7 (males), Hegewisch Marsh, LCal, 30 Apr (WM). **LD**: 26 May (male), Shaw's Wetland n of Wataga (Knox Co) (MJB); 14-24 May, GrdnPr. (DTW).

Rusty Blackbird
EA: 10 Feb (13), s Shelby Co (KF); 26 Feb, Urbana (RC); 1 Mar (male), JP (PC); 5 Mar (11), Wilkinson-Renwick Marsh (De Kalb Co) (DTW). **MC**: 300, Chau, 11 Mar (RC); 125, Mermet L, 29 Mar (KM); 100 (flock), Split Rock L (La Salle Co), 10 Mar (JH); 80, se Kankakee Co, 6 Apr (DFS). **LD**: **16 May** (singing male), Humboldt P, Chi (AA)—**third latest IL record**; 6 May (female), Humboldt P, Chi (AA); 29 Apr, Mermet L (KM et al.); 19 Apr (female), Lick Creek (Sgmn Co) (HDB). **Remarks**: Most left Sgmn Co in winter (due to drought?) (HDB).

Brewer's Blackbird
EA: **12 Feb** (female), Champaign (Champaign Co) (RC)—**second earliest IL arrival date**; 27 Feb (male), Champaign (Champaign Co) (RC); 10 Mar (2), s Shelby Co (KF); 19 Mar (2), Carl.L (DK); 19 Mar, Madison Co (FH). **MC**: **720**, Bond & Clinton Cos, 1 Apr (DK)—**remarkable record IL high count** following record-shattering high counts of previous two years; 55, Pulaski Co, 19 Feb (KM); 17, Fermi, 11 Mar (GW). **LD**: 9 Apr (2), Pulaski Co (KM); 8 Apr (300), Bond Co (DK); 3 Apr (3—two males, one female), LSpfld (HDB).

Common Grackle
EA: 9 Feb (influx, 500+), Urbana (RC); 17 Feb (male), Skokie (Cook Co) (EW). **MC**: **25,000**, Sgmn Co, 21 Mar (HDB); 7850, se Kankakee Co, 11 Mar (DFS). **LD**: 22 Apr (decrease), Sgmn Co (HDB). **Albinistic**, 13 Mar, LSpfld (HDB).

Brown-headed Cowbird
EA: 23 Feb (pr), JP (PC); 13 Mar (18), s Shelby Co (KF). **MC**: 5000 (roost), Sgmn Co, 21 Mar (HDB); 815, se Kankakee Co, 11 Mar (DFS). **LD**: 22 Apr (decrease), Sgmn Co (HDB).

Orchard Oriole
EA: 22 Apr, Middle Fork SFWA (Vermilion Co) (RC); 22 Apr (11), Union Co (KM); 4 May (ad. male), JP (SC). **MC**: 16, Mahomet (Champaign Co), 6 May (RC, GL); 11, Union Co, 22 Apr (KM). **LD**: 15 May (1st yr male), Ron Beese P, Barrington (Cook Co) (CSF).

Baltimore Oriole
EA: 18 Apr, L Murphysboro SP (Jackson Co) (KM); 22 Apr, Kickapoo SP (Vermilion Co) (SB, IOS fide RC); 22 Apr (2), s Shelby Co (KF); 1 May, n IL (m.ob.). **MC**: 55, Evanston, 12 May (EW); 50, Shelby Co, 6 May (KF); 36, nw Wbgo Co, 6 May (DTW); 10, Carl.L, 6 May (DK).

Purple Finch
EA: 12 Mar (male), Oswego (Kendall Co) (DFS); 21 Mar (2), Sang.L (HDB); 1 Apr, Clin.L (RC). **MC**: 13 (at feeder), Rockford, 16 Apr (DTW); 5, JP, 28 Apr (PC); 5, Deer G East, 1 May (CSF). **LD**: 10 May (2), GrantP (DFS); 4 May, Urbana (RC); 26 Apr, Beall Wds SP (Wabash Co) (KM).

House Finch
EA: 30 Mar (7), JP (PC). **MC**: 64, Evanston, 6 May (EW, JE, MS); 37, e Bureau Co, 6 May (DFS); 16, Sgmn Co, 1 Apr (HDB). **LD**: 6 May (17), JP (KA, PC). **Remarks**: Some discernible passage at JP, but migration limits vague (PC).

Red Crossbill
One report: 25 Mar (male), Oak R (Sgmn Co) (HDB).

White-winged Crossbill
MC: 12, Urbana, 6-10 Mar (RC, EC, GL). **LD**: 3 Apr, Urbana (RC). No other reports.

Common Redpoll
LD: 15 Mar, Saybrook (McLean Co) (JP fide MR); 11 Mar (overwintering at feeder), Skokie (Cook Co) (EM fide EW). No other reports.

Pine Siskin
EA: 22 Apr (2+), Ewing P, Bloomington (McLean Co) (MR); 23 Apr (9), Evanston (JE). **MC**: 9, Evanston, 23 Apr (JE). **LD**: 25 May (2), GrantP (DFS); 3 May, Wash.P (HDB); 29 Apr, AtwdRdg (KM).

American Goldfinch
EA: 25 Mar (increase), Sgmn Co (HDB). **MC**: 222 (in 20 flocks), Evanston, 11 May (EW); 106, Union Co, 16 Apr (KM); 44, Sgmn Co, 15 Apr (HDB). **LD**: 10 May (decrease), Sgmn Co (HDB).

House Sparrow
MC: 698, Evanston, 6 May (EW, JE, MS).

Eurasian Tree Sparrow
MC: 20, Madison Co, 30 Mar (KM); 8, Sgmn Co, 24 Mar (HDB).

EXOTICS:

Trumpeter Swan
9 Feb (4), LShel (KF); 4 Mar (ad.), IP (PC, KC). Recent records reflect reintroduction attempts in several midwestern states which may eventually re-establish this extirpated species.

Ringed Turtle-Dove
3 May (singing), JP (PC); 21 May, e Kendall Co (DFS); unidentified *Streptopelia* dove, 20 May, Brookfield (Cook Co) (TS—presumably Ringed Turtle-Dove based on past reports at this site).

European Goldfinch
Winter through 25 Mar (at feeder), Palatine (Cook Co) (CSF).

REVIEW PENDING

The following reports are pending IORC review and must be considered hypothetical at this time, despite the fact that some (but not all) of the reports are amply documented. Their status will be updated in *Meadowlark* in a forthcoming IORC report, including citations for documenting observers of accepted records.

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT: An ad. on 20 May, Carl.L (Fayette Co)—first record for Carlyle L and for county. There are ten accepted IL records.

TRICOLORED HERON: One reported on 2 May, Carl.L (Fayette Co), but no details submitted to the seasonal editor.

EURASIAN WIGEON HYBRID: A report of a male **hybrid Eurasian x American Wigeon** on 21-22 Mar, Collinsville Road (St. Clair Co), has been submitted for IORC review.

BLACK RAIL: Four reports: 30 Apr (heard only), Middle Fork Creek bottoms n of West Frankfort (Franklin Co); 13 May, Pulaski Co, and 20 May (heard only), same site; 29 May (heard only), Clin.L.

WHIMBREL: Two inland reports: 15 May (4), Black Bottoms (Massac Co); 27 May (4), Carl.L (Fayette Co). This species is currently listed as requiring IORC review except along L Michigan.

CURLEW SANDPIPER: One in incomplete breeding plumage on 20 May, Ward Branch, Rend L— second report for Rend L. Eight records have been previously accepted for IL, but none since 1987.

RUFF: Two reports (possibly involving one individual?): **3 Apr**, Fairmount City (St. Clair Co); **4-6 Apr** (male), Columbia (Monroe Co). 23 previously accepted IL spring records.

CALIFORNIA GULL: A subad. on 20 May, Sgmn Co.

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE

The status of this colonizing feral species *vs* the very similar Ringed Turtle-Dove (an aviary artifact) is proving to be a challenge to both the IORC and IL birders. Only one documentation received—1 Apr (2), Aledo (Mercer Co). Several other Eurasian Collared-Doves were reported with no details: 14-21 Mar (2), Red Bud (Randolph Co); 19 Mar (2) and 26 Mar, Carl.L (Fayette Co); 5 Apr (4), Witt (Montgomery Co); 5 Apr ("species previously documented"), Effingham Co; 24 Apr (3), Carl.L; 13 May, Chi. "Now common [in Montgomery Co] up to 10 mi. away from the inital point of colonization (Nokomis). They have also been noted in the nearby towns of Irving and Raymond...." The IORC still seeks evidence for identifiable Eurasian Collared-Doves within IL, especially since many documentations received to date are not diagnostic.

SAY'S PHOEBE: 29-30 Mar, Humboldt P, Chi. Of the eight previous IL records, only one is from spring.

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT: One heard delivering its flight song (but not seen), on 22 Apr, Carl.L.

VIRGINIA'S WARBLER: A male reported on 6 May, Moraine View SP (McLean Co). This species has yet to be admitted to the IL list of accepted species, and the present report is handicapped by being a single-observer sight record. There are, however, two previous multiple-observer reports under IORC review.

CORRIGENDUM (SPRING 1999 REPORT):
Osprey: High counts of **10** and 5 are incorrect, as only singles were noted at these sites.

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